THE *Kennywood* COLLECTION



JANUARY 10, 2005
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC RARITIES

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC RARITIES, LLC

Prices Realized

THE *Kennywood* COLLECTION

TOTAL PRICES REALIZED: OVER $9 MILLION

JANUARY 10, 2005

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL



The famous 1866 No Motto dollar, one of two known to exist, generated applause when it realized $1,207,500



The Pittman 1804 13 Stars dime, JR-1, graded AU-53 (PCGS) soared past expectations to $97,750



This 1797 16 Stars half dime, LM-2, graded MS-66 (NGC) realized $115,000



This beautiful 1858 quarter eagle rarity graded Proof-66 Cameo (NGC) well exceeded expectations at $82,800



This spectacular 1793 Chain AMERICA cent, S-2, graded MS-65 BN (PCGS) sold for $431,250

LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE
1	5,865.00	54	143.75	134	1,610.00	194	4,427.50	245	1,265.00	294	517.50	360	3,910.00	408	598.00
2	5,060.00	55	1,725.00	137	3,220.00	195	805.00	246	2,070.00	295	2,012.50	361	6,670.00	410	805.00
3	5,290.00	56	1,725.00	138	977.50	196	632.50	247	1,092.50	296	2,012.50	362	1,840.00	411	862.50
4	3,910.00	57	747.50	139	4,140.00	197	460.00	248	1,207.50	297	1,610.00	363	1,380.00	412	5,750.00
5	5,290.00	59	632.50	146	862.50	198	1,380.00	249	690.00	298	5,750.00	364	4,140.00	413	506.00
6	4,600.00	60	17,250.00	147	2,990.00	199	862.50	250	1,150.00	299	4,600.00	365	1,840.00	414	2,990.00
8	3,220.00	61	575.00	148	575.00	200	1,092.50	251	1,092.50	301	1,897.50	366	1,725.00	415	862.50
9	1,610.00	62	1,610.00	149	1,150.00	201	3,220.00	252	1,092.50	303	4,140.00	367	2,070.00	417	7,820.00
10	3,680.00	63	575.00	150	207.00	202	747.50	253	1,092.50	304	5,290.00	368	3,680.00	418	24,150.00
11	805.00	64	7,475.00	152	3,450.00	203	833.75	254	2,300.00	305	575.00	369	5,520.00	420	2,530.00
12	862.50	68	20,125.00	156	891.25	204	920.00	255	4,887.50	307	1,840.00	370	3,220.00	421	6,440.00
14	4,140.00	69	431,250.00	157	2,530.00	205	2,760.00	256	2,070.00	308	805.00	371	7,475.00	422	2,300.00
15	661.25	73	920.00	158	1,380.00	206	862.50	257	1,265.00	309	1,725.00	372	2,875.00	423	1,265.00
16	2,357.50	74	14,950.00	159	920.00	207	1,265.00	258	2,070.00	314	27,600.00	373	75,900.00	424	3,105.00
18	1,725.00	75	1,265.00	160	747.50	209	690.00	259	4,370.00	315	36,800.00	374	3,910.00	425	12,650.00
19	1,840.00	78	3,220.00	163	1,380.00	210	1,437.50	260	747.50	317	1,840.00	375	71,300.00	426	5,520.00
20	2,760.00	80	977.50	164	925.75	211	805.00	261	2,645.00	318	18,400.00	376	805.00	427	43,700.00
21	2,760.00	81	632.50	165	977.50	212	1,092.50	262	977.50	320	36,800.00	377	6,440.00	430	21,850.00
22	690.00	82	1,092.50	166	747.50	213	977.50	265	747.50	322	115,000.00	378	87,400.00	433	8,625.00
23	345.00	83	920.00	167	805.00	214	805.00	266	2,760.00	323	6,670.00	380	7,245.00	435	3,220.00
25	230.00	85	862.50	168	1,092.50	216	862.50	267	747.50	324	10,637.50	381	4,370.00	436	920.00
27	1,380.00	86	2,415.00	169	805.00	217	2,127.50	269	1,610.00	328	4,370.00	383	32,200.00	437	3,680.00
28	1,840.00	87	920.00	170	1,035.00	218	920.00	270	1,955.00	329	4,600.00	384	8,395.00	438	2,415.00
30	2,990.00	89	1,035.00	171	1,035.00	219	1,955.00	271	2,415.00	330	1,840.00	385	2,875.00	439	2,415.00
31	2,530.00	92	1,495.00	172	6,325.00	220	2,530.00	272	575.00	331	8,625.00	386	805.00	440	48,300.00
32	483.00	94	3,220.00	174	2,990.00	222	661.25	273	747.50	336	1,437.50	387	805.00	441	16,100.00
33	241.50	95	2,530.00	175	632.50	224	920.00	274	1,610.00	337	7,475.00	389	41,400.00	442	2,645.00
34	2,185.00	96	1,389.20	176	1,495.00	225	2,990.00	275	920.00	338	14,950.00	390	4,025.00	443	95,450.00
36	2,990.00	99	3,450.00	177	2,530.00	227	3,105.00	276	2,530.00	339	46,000.00	391	2,990.00	444	66,700.00
37	1,035.00	100	2,990.00	178	3,910.00	228	1,150.00	278	1,380.00	340	17,250.00	392	4,140.00	445	5,060.00
38	39,100.00	101	1,092.50	179	920.00	229	5,635.00	280	2,645.00	341	2,990.00	393	1,380.00	446	1,265.00
40	747.50	103	747.50	180	833.75	230	690.00	281	1,610.00	342	97,750.00	394	2,185.00	447	8,970.00
41	5,980.00	105	1,265.00	181	690.00	231	805.00	282	4,830.00	343	39,100.00	395	1,265.00	448	41,400.00
42	977.50	111	2,530.00	182	977.50	232	805.00	283	3,565.00	346	1,955.00	397	862.50	450	1,725.00
43	2,300.00	113	1,322.50	183	1,092.50	233	690.00	284	5,750.00	347	1,840.00	398	1,782.50	451	32,200.00
44	747.50	116	1,092.50	184	805.00	234	3,220.00	285	776.25	349	18,400.00	399	805.00	452	14,950.00
46	920.00	117	2,760.00	185	747.50	236	603.75	286	920.00	351	5,750.00	400	2,530.00	455	1,092.50
47	1,380.00	118	2,070.00	186	977.50	237	425.50	287	1,610.00	352	6,900.00	401	4,312.50	456	1,322.50
48	517.50	120	805.00	187	805.00	238	488.75	288	6,900.00	353	4,370.00	402	747.50	457	1,035.00
49	517.50	121	1,610.00	188	3,220.00	240	1,035.00	289	2,530.00	355	1,437.50	403	598.00	458	2,242.50
50	431.25	122	484.15	189	7,187.50	241	690.00	290	2,070.00	356	10,925.00	404	1,092.50	459	5,175.00
51	1,782.50	123	3,910.00	190	1,495.00	242	3,680.00	291	1,840.00	357	1,725.00	405	3,450.00	460	2,185.00
52	1,610.00	124	557.75	191	920.00	243	1,955.00	292	862.50	358	3,450.00	406	345.00	463	15,525.00
53	1,380.00	130	1,725.00	192	1,725.00	244	690.00	293	4,370.00	359	16,100.00	407	2,127.50	465	6,785.00

BOX 1804 • WOLFEBORO, NH 03894 • 866-811-1804 • 603-569-0823 • FAX: 603-569-3875

All prices listed include the 15% buyer's fee

LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE	LOT	PRICE
466	7,360.00	581	23,000.00	691	1,552.50	763	805.00	835	6,900.00	900	33,350.00	965	1,265.00	1092	1,063.75
467	8,970.00	582	3,220.00	692	2,300.00	764	816.50	836	4,830.00	901	9,200.00	968	27,600.00	1093	644.00
468	2,990.00	584	6,670.00	693	94,875.00	766	2,760.00	838	1,840.00	902	21,275.00	971	4,370.00	1094	1,265.00
470	4,370.00	586	4,370.00	694	1,840.00	768	1,265.00	839	6,900.00	903	18,400.00	972	2,990.00	1095	661.25
472	4,600.00	587	747.50	696	1,840.00	769	2,760.00	840	17,250.00	904	16,100.00	974	29,900.00	1096	661.25
473	2,185.00	588	17,825.00	697	1,610.00	770	92,000.00	841	10,062.50	905	12,650.00	976	13,800.00	1097	1,150.00
474	25,300.00	589	13,800.00	698	2,070.00	771	32,200.00	842	23,000.00	907	6,900.00	979	3,335.00	1098	1,035.00
475	33,350.00	590	10,350.00	699	2,990.00	772	16,100.00	843	14,950.00	908	3,220.00	981	3,105.00	1099	632.50
476	1,150.00	592	1,955.00	700	1,035.00	773	1,265.00	844	7,015.00	909	9,890.00	984	6,670.00	1100	17,250.00
478	1,610.00	593	16,100.00	702	5,520.00	774	4,830.00	845	1,955.00	910	14,950.00	985	5,980.00	1101	1,265.00
479	10,637.50	594	6,037.50	703	2,185.00	775	2,300.00	846	8,050.00	911	6,037.50	986	3,795.00	1102	1,092.50
480	2,300.00	595	4,140.00	705	6,210.00	776	3,450.00	847	94,300.00	912	8,050.00	988	5,060.00	1103	1,495.00
481	1,265.00	596	805.00	706	1,495.00	779	2,070.00	848	20,700.00	913	6,037.50	989	5,060.00	1104	920.00
482	8,510.00	597	920.00	707	1,610.00	781	373.75	849	16,100.00	914	8,912.50	990	2,990.00	1105	1,552.50
486	2,070.00	598	1,495.00	711	1,150.00	782	21,850.00	850	21,850.00	915	9,775.00	991	92,000.00	1106	506.00
488	2,300.00	599	82,800.00	712	805.00	786	4,485.00	851	34,500.00	916	9,775.00	992	63,250.00	1108	891.25
489	2,760.00	600	1,150.00	713	483.00	787	603.75	853	862.50	917	13,800.00	994	48,300.00	1109	661.25
491	7,360.00	601	4,140.00	714	276.00	788	5,290.00	855	27,600.00	918	11,500.00	995	6,900.00	1113	1,104.00
492	7,130.00	602	4,600.00	717	2,530.00	790	1,092.50	856	5,750.00	919	10,350.00	997	2,070.00	1116	4,370.00
493	2,070.00	603	747.50	719	2,185.00	791	1,610.00	857	3,910.00	920	10,350.00	998	3,565.00	1121	2,300.00
494	2,012.50	604	920.00	720	4,140.00	794	2,472.50	858	1,092.50	921	6,670.00	1001	33,350.00	1122	2,760.00
496	55,200.00	605	805.00	722	920.00	795	690.00	859	1,092.50	922	14,950.00	1002	10,925.00	1127	3,795.00
497	59,800.00	606	1,035.00	724	6,670.00	796	920.00	861	3,220.00	923	6,900.00	1004	920.00	1130	920.00
500	6,900.00	607	4,830.00	726	18,687.50	797	575.00	862	6,900.00	924	39,100.00	1006	805.00	1131	4,600.00
501	2,185.00	608	891.25	727	3,795.00	798	1,495.00	863	82,800.00	925	12,075.00	1007	6,210.00	1132	2,300.00
502	1,035.00	609	977.50	731	5,060.00	799	2,070.00	864	977.50	926	6,210.00	1008	50,600.00	1133	3,220.00
506	1,495.00	610	805.00	732	2,990.00	802	1,725.00	865	75,900.00	927	1,955.00	1010	44,275.00	1134	3,910.00
507	26,450.00	611	977.50	733	575.00	803	1,725.00	866	747.50	928	25,300.00	1014	7,360.00	1135	92,000.00
509	460.00	612	862.50	734	1,782.50	804	13,800.00	867	34,500.00	929	6,210.00	1015	4,140.00	1136	208.15
510	13,800.00	613	747.50	736	34,500.00	808	4,140.00	868	6,900.00	930	12,650.00	1016	4,255.00	1139	39,675.00
511	5,807.50	614	4,715.00	737	1,725.00	809	6,325.00	871	6,325.00	931	6,210.00	1017	8,050.00	1140	40,250.00
514	1,552.50	615	1,955.00	738	2,990.00	811	1,725.00	873	10,465.00	932	19,550.00	1018	2,070.00	1141	39,100.00
515	6,210.00	616	9,200.00	740	747.50	812	27,600.00	874	2,530.00	933	12,650.00	1019	3,910.00	1142	20,125.00
516	1,092.50	617	9,200.00	742	1,610.00	813	9,200.00	876	15,525.00	934	13,225.00	1022	3,220.00	1145	5,980.00
518	8,050.00	619	7,360.00	743	1,092.50	815	805.00	877	1,035.00	935	4,140.00	1023	155,250.00	1148	5,980.00
520	1,150.00	620	8,625.00	744	11,212.50	816	1,265.00	878	2,300.00	936	5,750.00	1024	1,840.00	1149	71,300.00
521	1,265.00	621	5,750.00	745	1,495.00	817	1,265.00	880	529.00	937	21,850.00	1025	1,265.00	1150	368.00
522	920.00	623	1,610.00	747	4,830.00	818	920.00	883	2,415.00	938	19,550.00	1026	575.00	1151	287.50
524	8,050.00	624	1,380.00	748	1,840.00	820	2,530.00	884	517.50	939	5,750.00	1027	2,760.00	1152	345.00
525	9,775.00	626	6,670.00	749	747.50	821	833.75	885	3,450.00	940	19,550.00	1028	2,990.00	1153	575.00
527	690.00	627	2,070.00	750	862.50	822	1,380.00	888	2,530.00	941	23,000.00	1029	575.00	1154	460.00
528	862.50	628	1,265.00	751	2,530.00	823	460.00	889	2,587.50	942	20,700.00	1031	517.50	1155	368.00
529	862.50	629	1,035.00	752	506.00	824	759.00	890	1,610.00	943	20,125.00	1032	43,700.00	1156	1,035.00
530	10,925.00	631	10,925.00	753	575.00	825	2,300.00	891	48,300.00	944	16,100.00	1033	2,760.00	1157	1,265.00
531	1,265.00	632	8,050.00	754	3,162.50	826	690.00	892	4,830.00	946	26,450.00	1034	5,060.00	1158	454.25
532	1,725.00	633	2,070.00	755	1,207.50	828	1,955.00	893	1,610.00	947	34,500.00	1035	1,725.00	1159	506.00
533	1,035.00	634	1,610.00	756	4,370.00	829	13,800.00	894	1,437.50	948	24,150.00	1036	1,150.00	1160	1,610.00
534	3,910.00	635	2,990.00	757	5,980.00	830	1,610.00	895	2,185.00	957	17,825.00	1037	4,053.75	1162	2,760.00
536	4,140.00	636	4,600.00	758	276,000.00	831	9,775.00	896	16,387.50	958	36,800.00	1040	2,530.00	1163	1,035.00
537	1,265.00	638	4,140.00	759	2,645.00	832	2,530.00	897	5,750.00	959	4,600.00	1041	1,725.00	1164	3,220.00
538	8,280.00	640	1,725.00	760	2,645.00	833	4,370.00	898	2,760.00	961	747.50	1042	460.00	1165	2,127.50
539	2,530.00	641	1,265.00	761	3,220.00	834	37,375.00	899	69,000.00	964	16,100.00	1044	2,242.50	1167	1,552.50
540	1,150.00	642	483.00									1045	62,100.00	1168	1,495.00
541	11,500.00	643	1,725.00									1046	2,185.00	1169	1,955.00
542	8,510.00	644	506.00									1047	4,600.00	1174	3,795.00
544	1,265.00	647	3,910.00									1048	1,725.00	1175	6,900.00
546	5,290.00	648	977.50									1049	1,725.00	1178	18,400.00
547	4,600.00	649	805.00									1050	1,380.00	1180	105,800.00
548	920.00	650	805.00									1051	690.00	1183	28,750.00
549	977.50	651	333.50									1052	1,265.00	1184	2,760.00
550	1,380.00	652	805.00									1054	632.50	1187	27,600.00
551	1,265.00	656	31,050.00									1057	24,840.00	1188	19,550.00
555	3,220.00	657	4,370.00									1058	14,662.50	1189	31,050.00
556	3,220.00	658	98,900.00									1059	2,070.00	1190	25,300.00
557	6,440.00	660	112,700.00									1060	2,070.00	1192	4,830.00
559	1,380.00	662	1,437.50									1061	977.50	1193	1,897.50
560	32,200.00	663	1,150.00									1062	1,265.00	1194	2,415.00
561	2,070.00	665	5,290.00									1063	1,495.00	1195	1,523.75
563	6,842.50	666	1,265.00									1064	6,440.00	1196	1,380.00
564	4,140.00	669	11,212.50									1065	6,325.00	1197	1,150.00
565	1,840.00	672	4,830.00									1066	862.50	1198	1,955.00
568	7,590.00	673	2,530.00									1067	805.00	1199	1,150.00
569	1,150.00	677	7,130.00									1068	747.50	1200	862.50
570	1,150.00	678	172,500.00									1069	718.75	1201	2,127.50
571	13,800.00	679	64,400.00									1070	1,150.00	1202	1,265.00
572	1,035.00	682	2,645.00									1071	1,437.50	1203	1,380.00
573	4,140.00	683	7,360.00									1074	1,753.75	1204	1,150.00
574	1,495.00	684	1,150.00									1078	977.50	1205	1,265.00
575	690.00	685	20,700.00									1079	661.25	1206	4,657.50
576	126,500.00	687	5,462.50									1087	1,265.00	1207	920.00
577	11,500.00	688	2,760.00									1089	2,415.00	1208	1,380.00
578	4,600.00	689	218,500.00									1090	5,290.00		
580	77,050.00	690	3,220.00									1091	1,150.00		

ANR AUCTION SCHEDULE

March 8-9, 2005
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

April 18-19, 2005
NEW YORK CITY

June 23-26, 2005
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Official Auctioneers of the MidAmerica Coin Exposition

July 24-25, 2005
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

September 18, 2005
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

December 5-7, 2005
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

www.anrcoins.com

BOX 1804 • WOLFEBORO, NH 03894 • 866-811-1804 • 603-569-0823 • FAX: 603-569-3875

All prices listed include the 15% buyer's fe

THE *Kennywood* COLLECTION

January 10, 2005

RADISSON BAHIA MAR
BEACH RESORT
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

THE RARE 1866 NO MOTTO DOLLAR



LOT 689

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC RARITIES, LLC

Box 1804 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894 • Toll-Free: 866-811-1804 • 603-569-0823
Fax: 603-569-3875 • www.anrcoins.com • email: auctions@anrcoins.com



AMERICAN
NUMISMATIC
RARITIES, LLC

Box 1804 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894
Toll-Free: 866-811-1804 • 603-569-0823
Fax: 603-569-3875 • email: auctions@anrcoins.com
anrcoins.com

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT
Vega Applications Development, Inc.

Copyright ©2005 by American Numismatic Rarities, LLC. All rights reserved

Color Plate 1



1 2 3 4 7 35 38

41 60 64 65 66

68 69 74 77



97 106 107 109 110 112 123 125 126



133 136 139 152 172 173 189 194 215

Color Plate 2



221 255 259 261 266 282 283



284 288 293 298 299 300 302 303



310 311 313 314 315 316 318



320 321 322 323 324 325 326 331 334 335



337 338 339 340 342 343 344 345 349

Color Plate 3



351 352 354 356 359 368 369 373 375



377 378 380 381 383 384 389 390 392



401 416 417 418 425



426 427 428 429 430 432 437



440 441 443 444

Color Plate 4



447 448 449 451 459 461



462 463 464 465 466 467 472



474 475 479 482 483 484 490



491 492 496 497 499

Color Plate 5




503




504




505













507 508 510 515 517













518 523 525 526 538











541 542 543 557

Color Plate 6



558 560 562 563 566



568 571 576 578 580



585 588 589 590 593



599 616 617

Color Plate 7


618


620


621


625


626


632


639










656


658


660


678










679


680


681


685

Color Plate 8





689











693



695



726



736











746



758



770



771

Color Plate 9


772


777


782


785



800



804



805



806



807



810



812

Color Plate 10



813





814


829 831 834 835 837 839 840 841 842 843 844


846 847 848 849 850 851


852 855 862 863 865 867 868 871 872


873 875 876 887 891 892 896 897


900 902

Color Plate 11



903 904 905 906 910 914



915 917 918 919 920 922 924



925 928 930 932 933 934 937



938 940 941 942 943 944 945

Color Plate 12



946 947 948 951 955 957 958



959 960 964 968 969 971 974 975



976 978 982 983



984 985 991



992 994 996

Color Plate 13















999



1000



1001



1002



1003



1007





1008





1009





1010





1012













1014



1017



1023



1032



1045





1053





1055





1056

Color Plate 14



1057



1058



1072





1100





1120

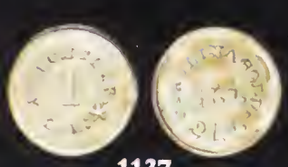


1134





1135



1137

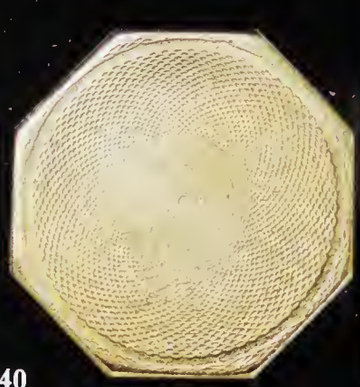


1138



1139





1140





1141





1142

Color Plate 15



1143 1144 1145 1146



1147 1148



1149



1161 1162 1170 1171 1172 1173 1174



1175 1176 1177

Color Plate 16



1178



1179



1180



1181



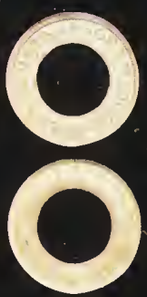
1182



1183



1185



1186



1187



1188



1189



1190

THE SESSION

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

1:00 pm Sharp

There will be a buffet dinner for registered bidders at approximately 5:00 pm

AUCTION LOCATION

STATE ROOM C • RADISSON BAHIA MAR BEACH RESORT

801 Seabreeze Boulevard • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 • 954-524-6912

LOT VIEWING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 10
9:00 am - 12:00 noon

LOT PICK-UP

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2005
9:00 am - 11:30 am

LOT VIEWING & PICK-UP LOCATION

SEABREEZE ROOM • RADISSON BAHIA MAR BEACH RESORT

801 Seabreeze Boulevard • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 • 954-524-6912

To insure we receive your bids:

Please have mail and fax bids to us by:

NOON, Eastern Time
Friday, January 7, 2005

There will be pre-sale and live bidding available on the internet at
www. anrcoins.com
Pre-registration for live internet bidding is required by Friday, January 7, 2005

Prices Realized

Prices realized will be posted on the internet soon after the sale. See www.anrcoins.com

A printed list of prices realized will be sent to all subscribers approximately 30 days after the sale.

For prices realized by phone: Call 603-569-0823. Limit 10 lots per caller.

American Numismatic Rarities'

AUCTION SCHEDULE

March 8-9, 2005

Baltimore, Maryland

Now Accepting Consignments

April 18-19, 2005

New York City

The Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection of World Gold Coins and Medals

June 23-26, 2005

Chicago, Illinois

Official Auctioneers of the MidAmerica Coin Exposition

Now Accepting Consignments

July 24-25, 2005

San Jose, California

Now Accepting Consignments

September 18, 2005

Beverly Hills, California

Now Accepting Consignments

December 5-7, 2005

Baltimore, Maryland

Now Accepting Consignments

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC RARITIES, LLC

Box 1804 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894

Toll-Free: 866-811-1804 • Fax: 603-569-3875

www.anrcoins.com • email: auctions@anrcoins.com

THE PEOPLE

of American Numismatic Rarities

President: Christine Karstedt

Numismatic Director: Q. David Bowers

AUCTION

Dr. Richard A. Bagg, *Consignments*
John Pack, *Consignments*
Frank Van Valen, *Senior Numismatist*
John J. Kraljevich, *Numismatic Research*
Beth O. Piper, *Numismatist*

AUCTIONEERS

Christine Karstedt
Frank Van Valen

MARKETING & PUBLICITY

Christine Karstedt

GRAPHICS

Jennifer Meers
Christine Metcalfe
Jenna V. King

SALES

Melissa Karstedt

FINANCIAL

Laurel A. Morrill

ADMINISTRATION

Cynthia LaCarbonara, *Auction Coordinator*
Georgie Babalis
Andrew Bowers
Jenna V. King
Vicki L. Martin
Pamela Roberts
Mary Tocci
Jeremy Wiggin

PHOTOGRAPHY

Douglas Plasencia



Christine Karstedt serves as our *President* and handles our Marketing and Publicity with unbridled enthusiasm. A fixture at numismatic conventions and auctions for over a decade, Chris has built a vast network of industry contacts during her extensive career. Chris' unique ability to attract worldwide attention to the sale of numismatic material placed her at the epicenter of the marketing of the $100 million treasure of the *S.S. Central America*. Chris has worked with numismatic trade publications as well as the mainstream press since she initially started in the numismatic industry with Bowers and Merena. While there she structured the publicity for the sales of the Eliasberg Collection, the Bass Collection, the Norweb Collection of Canadian coins and countless other events. Most recently the worldwide publicity for our sale of the Haig Koshkarian Collection garnered ANR a place in the top 20 auction prices realized records at #11. Her unstinting and tireless efforts help consignors receive the highest possible prices for their coins. Chris is deeply involved with day-to-day operations and is our lead auctioneer.



Q. David Bowers, Numismatic Director for American Numismatic Rarities, is perhaps the best-known and most noteworthy numismatist of the last 50 years. Beginning in 1953, Dave's contributions to numismatics have continued uninterrupted and unabated to the present day. His work with rare coins is so voluminous and so extraordinary that he was named by *CoinAge* magazine as one of the "Numismatists of the Century." Dave's dedication to the hobby and his lifelong interest in rare coins, along with his pursuit of scholarly knowledge, have made him one of the most honored and revered numismatists of all time. Dave is the only person to have served as president of both the Professional Numismatists Guild (1977-1979) and the American Numismatic Association (1983-1985). Dave is the most prolific numismatic author of our generation, having produced more than 40 works, mostly written in the field of rare coins. From the Professional Numismatists Guild, he has received the coveted Friedberg Award a record seven times! During his illustrious career, Dave has catalogued and sold at public auction many of the finest and most valuable and important collections ever assembled.



Dr. Richard A. Bagg, *Director of Auction Consignments*, is a nationally known rare coin expert and scholar with 30 years of auction experience and has served as Auction Director for nearly two decades under the tutelage of Q. David Bowers. In the course of his celebrated career, Rick has processed several hundred million dollars worth of rare coins at auction for thousands of collectors, institutions, executors, dealers, and investors. Rick shows an impressive degree of expertise and consummate knowledge of numismatics with few parallels. As a numismatic scholar, Rick has provided information to over a dozen standard reference sources, conducted substantive research for the *Official ANA Grading Standards for United States Coins* and edited a book entitled *Grading Coins*. He has also written numerous articles that have appeared in numismatic trade publications including *The Numismatist* where he won a Heath Literary Award.

John M. Pack, our *Associate Director of Auction Consignments*, has been involved in numismatics for over 20 years. John's enthusiasm for all aspects of numismatics, and his sincere approach, guarantees that every consignment will be presented to its finest advantage so as to provide the highest possible prices realized. In addition to working with auction consignors, John catalogues currency for the firm. His cataloguing talents were widely recognized for several record setting presentations of U.S. paper money highlighted by the world-renowned collections of Bass and Rich. In addition, he was selected to compose the currency chapter of the *Harry W. Bass, Jr. Museum Sylloge*.

Frank Van Valen, our *Senior Numismatist*, is one of America's best known numismatic personalities. Widely praised for over two decades for his numismatic cataloguing, Frank's byline has appeared in dozens of the most important catalogues ever written including the Norweb Collection sale and specialized collections, like the Texas Collection of California Fractional Gold and the historic coin collection of Commodore Matthew C. Perry. Frank has contributed to the last 15 editions of *A Guide Book of United States Coins* and his writing talents have earned him the recognition of the Numismatic Literary Guild. Frank has an expert understanding of the intricacies of all American coinage in addition to many other numismatic fields.

John J. Kraljevich, Jr., serves as our *Director of Numismatic Research*. A numismatic prodigy since preadolescence, John's insightful and historical contributions to our catalogues add value and interest to numismatic material in our sales. An expert on early American coinage, Numismatic Americana, and the technical aspects of minting technology, John has taught seminars hosted by the American Numismatic Association, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and is a columnist in the ANA magazine, *The Numismatist*. The Numismatic Literary Guild recognized John's cataloguing of the Lucien LaRiviere Collection, the first $1 million collection of American medals ever sold at auction, with its highest cataloging award for tokens and medals. A frequent consultant to museums and institutions, John catalogues many of our important offerings and enjoys working directly with our consignors. John was a recent recipient of the ANA's coveted Heath Literary Award for an article on the coins of pre-federal New York, and serves as an officer of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society and the Medal Collectors of America.

Beth Piper began her career in numismatics at Bowers and Merena and worked 18 years with that firm. In that time, she earned the distinction of having spent more continuous years working under the direction of Q. David Bowers than any other individual. Beth has participated in nearly every position required at a leading numismatic auction firm, and her responsibilities encompassed receptionist to coin grading to direct sales, as well as numismatic research and cataloguing of auction lots. One of her primary jobs is processing and proofreading auction lots and the final compilation of data files for catalogues. Her work with great numismatic auction sales is extensive and includes landmark offerings such as the collections of the Norweb family, Eliasberg, Bass and Childs, among over 100 other sales.

Cynthia LaCarbonara coordinates all aspects of our live auction sales. From working with consignor reserves, verification of opening values, and lot assignments, to reconciliation and finalization of all bidding and purchase records, Cynthia is an integral part of the system of checks and balances that make every auction sale a smoothly functioning success. For 16 years, Cynthia has worked both behind the scenes and at the podium at live auction sales. During that time, she led the Bowers and Merena auction team that sold such great collections as those of Eliasberg, Childs, and Bass, a few highlights among dozens of important auction sales. A prominent figure at auction sales, Cynthia is well recognized by dealers and collectors alike.

Laurel Morrill manages our accounting department, handling all receivable and payable accounts for our auctions, direct sales, and subscriptions. It is her organized and efficient approach that guarantees each transfer of funds is correct and done promptly. Laurel has significant experience with the unique accounting requirements of a great numismatic auction firm. For over 16 years, she was an integral part of the accounting department of Bowers and Merena. While there, she participated in the accounting duties that promptly paid thousands of auction consignors hundreds of millions of dollars in settlement funds, an experience that makes her uniquely qualified.

Doug Plasencia manages our photography department and personally takes all of the coin photographs that appear in our auction catalogues, on our website, and in our other publications. He has been a professional numismatic photographer for many years, perfecting his skills with Bowers and Merena. In his career, he has photographed many of the most important numismatic collections ever formed and sold,



including those of Eliasberg, Bass, Childs, among others. To his further credit, he was selected by the California Gold Marketing Group to do photography of the gold ingots recovered from the *S.S. Central America*, he photographed the Jay Roe Collection of California fractional gold coins to illustrate the most recent edition of the Breen-Gillio reference, and he was selected to photograph the Bass Core Collection by the Bass Research Foundation. His highly acclaimed work appears in the Bass *Sylloge*.

Jennifer Meers leads our graphic arts department. In her 13 years with Bowers and Merena, Jennifer developed an eye for professional catalogue design that is unparalleled in numismatics. She is responsible for all auction catalogue layout. In her career, she has put together many award-winning auction catalogues, books, and other publications. Among her most notable achievements are the auction catalogues for such famous collections as those of Eliasberg, Champa, Bass, and Childs among over 100 others, many of which earned Catalogue of the Year awards from the Numismatic Literary Guild. The dozens of books produced under her direction include several titles by Q. David Bowers, including the landmark works, *A California Gold Rush History featuring the treasure from the S.S. Central America*, and the *Harry W. Bass, Jr. Museum Sylloge*. Further, she carefully proofreads all of our publications and she contributes to our publicity campaigns in developing many of our finest advertisements and brochures.

Melissa Karstedt works with clients in our direct sales department, with the active support of our team of well-respected numismatists. She maintains our coin inventory and supervises our Monthly Acquisition Program, which assists clients with building fine collections by way of budgeted monthly coin purchases. Each coin is carefully and specifically selected by our numismatists to fit the collector's interests and preferences. Melissa began working in numismatics at Bowers and Merena, working in the Direct Sales department with numerous clients. She is also a valued member of our on-site auction team as she travels all over the country to our many auction sales and facilitates our many telephone bidders. You will also find her eagerly assisting clients at our bourse tables at the many coin conventions she regularly attends. She brings great enthusiasm to American Numismatic Rarities, and looks forward to receiving every call from our many clients worldwide.

Andrew Bowers manages our website content and coordinates editorial material for all of our publications. He is involved with the processing of auction consignments from our consignors. He assists in our retail operations, from putting coins in stock, to tracking our inventory. He brings a great deal of enthusiasm to American Numismatic Rarities. Being part of a numismatic and collector-oriented family, Andrew has grown to appreciate the various nuances of the collector. Andrew has spent many years during his high school and university career immersed in the coin hobby during summer breaks. On his own behalf, he has attended many coin conventions and ANA seminars and has traveled extensively with our company to gather coins for "want lists" and assist with our auctions.

Vicki L. Martin heads our personnel and operations department. She coordinates our on-site auction arrangements and is responsible for providing safe and secure transportation of valuable coin collections to the sales. Vicki supervises the many administrative matters at our office from coin and health insurance to computers and their programs. Vicki's strong organizational skills and detail-oriented background have earned her high accolades over her 20 years experience handling personnel and operational issues with the several companies with which she has been associated.

Pamela Roberts began her career in numismatic auctions with Bowers and Merena Galleries in August, 2000 and worked at both their Wolfeboro and Louisiana locations until recently moving back to New England. During this time, she became an integral part of the auction staff. At American Numismatic Rarities, Pam will be an energetic addition to our auction team. Working as an interface between consignors, cataloguers, and our graphics department, she will assist with essential consignment paperwork, be responsible for much of our internal processing of auction lots, as well as proofreading. She will also be present at many of our live auction sales, working closely with Cynthia LaCarbonara.

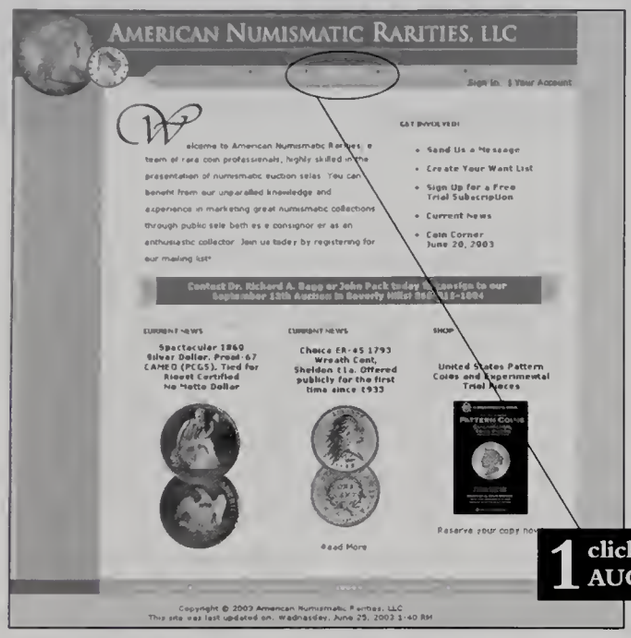
Mary Tocci directs our shipping and receiving department, handling nearly every package and item of mail that enters or leaves our offices. This extremely important position is vital to the security of all of our incoming and outgoing packages, and her qualifications are unparalleled. She began a career with Bowers and Merena in April 1983. Aside from one brief interlude, she worked for Q. David Bowers for 19 years in total, beginning very shortly after the establishment of his firm in Wolfeboro and continuing until her joining of American Numismatic Rarities. Mary also has an excellent rapport with many collectors, having spent years working with clients in subscription maintenance and publication sales.

Jenna V. King is the friendly voice you hear when you call American Numismatic Rarities. She comes to us with several years of experience working in the coin field, having begun her career at Bowers and Merena where she assisted in photography and graphics, and worked with the numismatic staff in catalogue production. As an accomplished photographer, Jenna also lends her talents to the graphics and photography departments at American Numismatic Rarities.

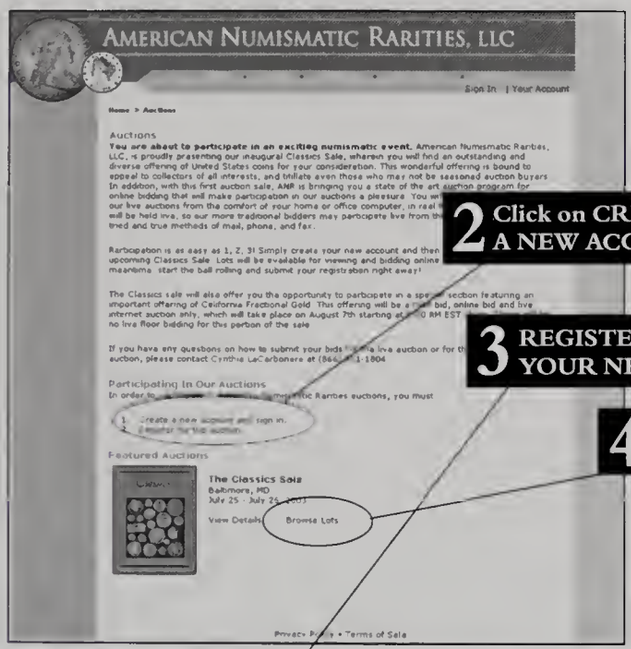
Jeremy Wiggin wears many hats at American Numismatic Rarities from shipping and receiving to supervision and maintenance of our computer systems. He has a good understanding of the inner workings of a numismatic company, as he spent nearly three years at Bowers and Merena. During that time he was responsible for inventory control and shipping of thousands of catalogues, books and other publications.

Guide to
PRE-SALE ONLINE BIDDING

Visit our website at www.anrcoins.com to register and bid in the Kennywood Park Collection sale. Once you have a user name and password, you can browse lots from the sale, view photographs of the coins, and place bids. Follow the instructions listed in Steps 1-6 to place your bids over the internet *before* the sale begins.



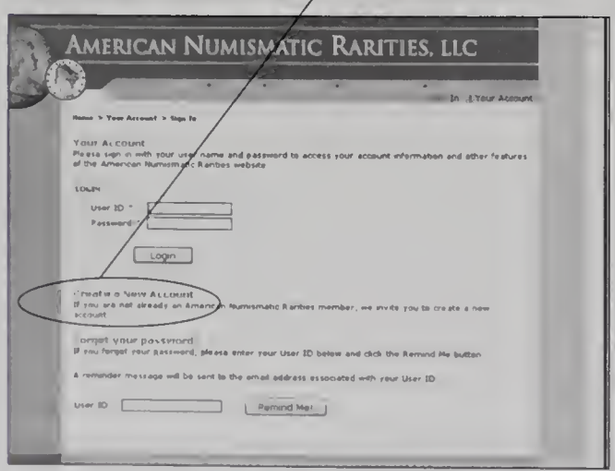
1 click on AUCTIONS



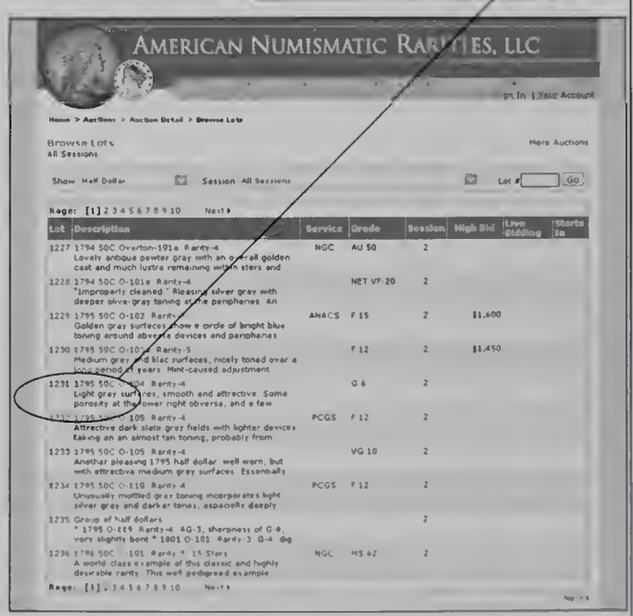
2 Click on CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT

3 REGISTER AND CREATE YOUR NEW ACCOUNT

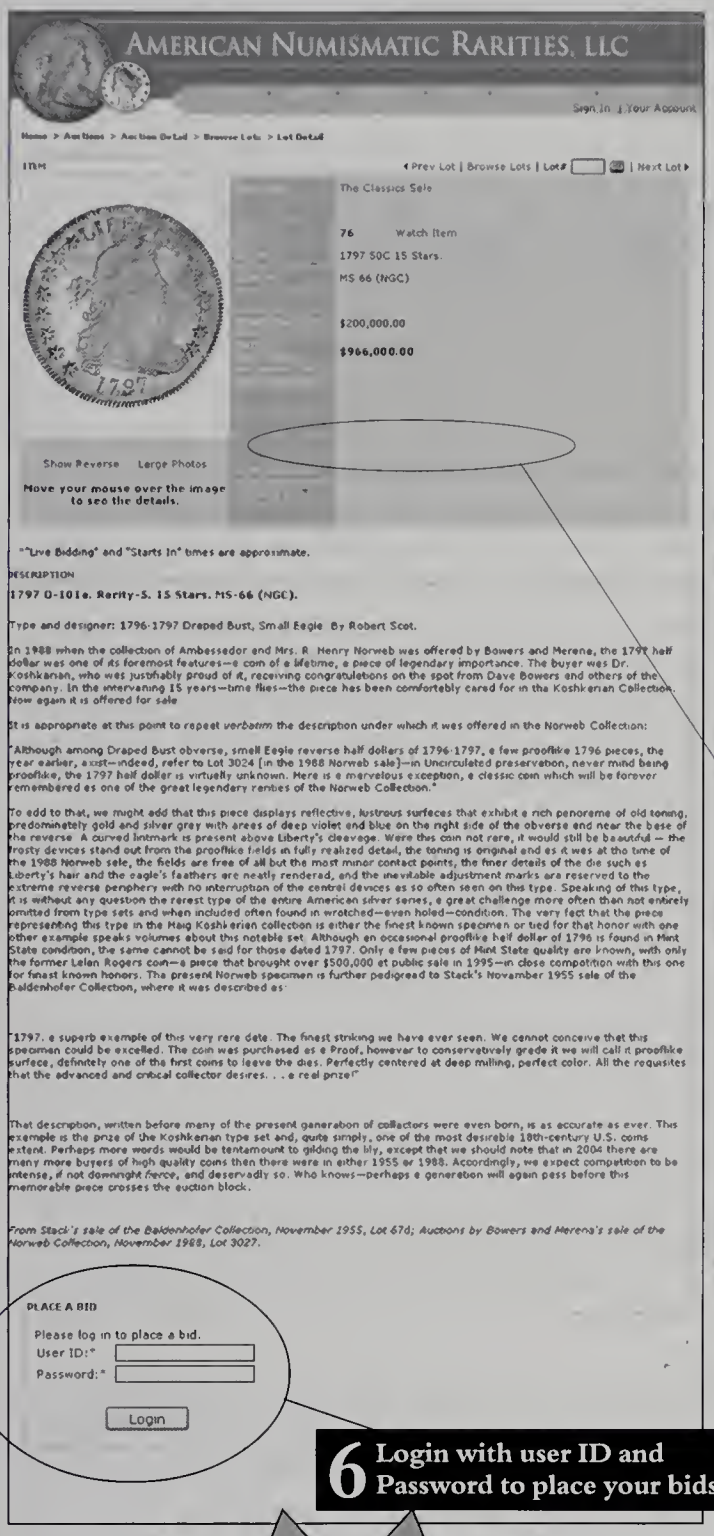
4 Return to auctions page. Click on BROWSE LOTS



5 Click on lots you wish to view or bid on



www.anrcoins.com



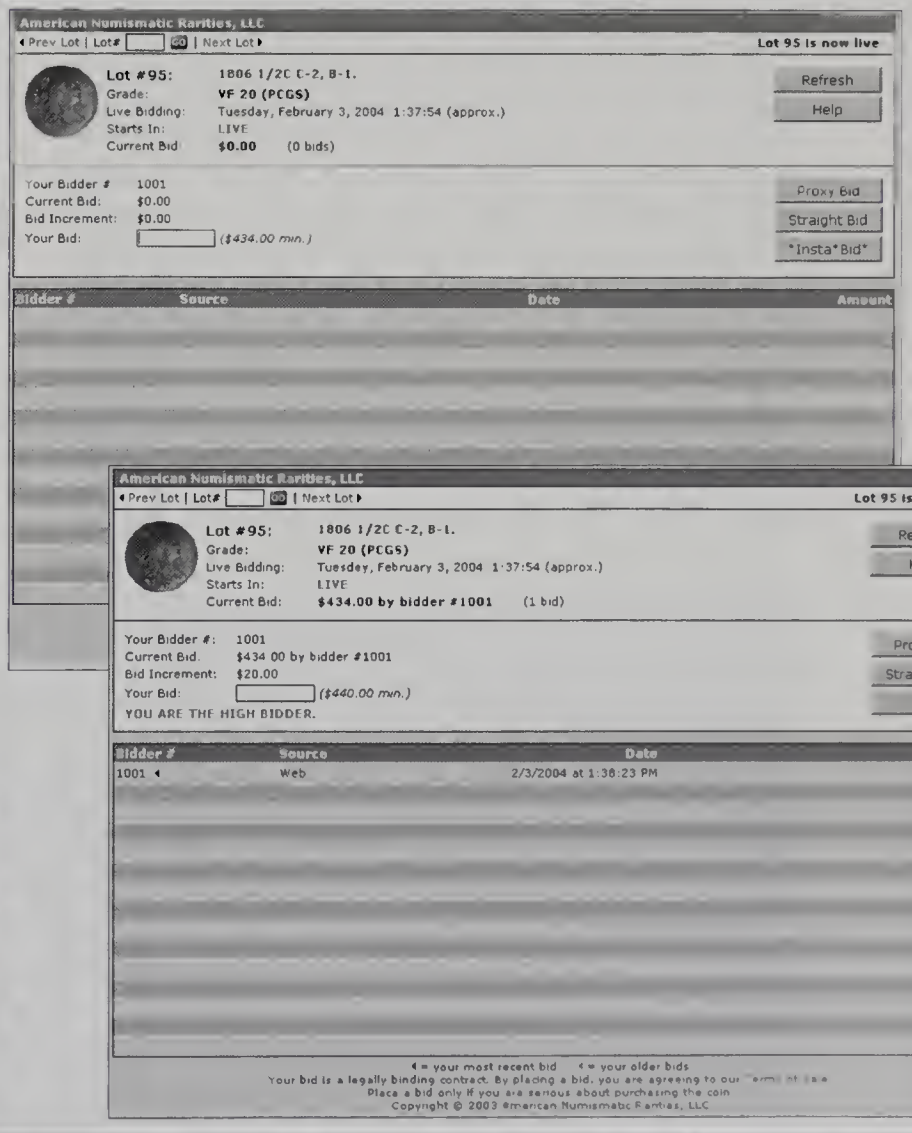
6 Login with user ID and Password to place your bids

Guide to LIVE ONLINE BIDDING

We also offer the option of live online bidding during the auction. However, you must pre-register by noon, Friday January 7, 2005 to take advantage of this service. When the live auction begins, one click will take you to the live bidding screen below. When your lot becomes active, you may enter a proxy bid or "InstaBid" as the lot is being auctioned on the floor. The computer lets you know your bidding status.

For more information on live bidding, or to pre-register visit anrcoins.com or call 866-811-1804.

When the live auction begins, pre-registered bidders may access live bidding with a click!



LIVE ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE

Pre-registration required at www.anrcoins.com

www.anrcoins.com

THE TERMS OF SALE

1 This sale is by public auction conducted by licensed auctioneer(s). The bids will be for specific lots which will be opened for bidding in numerical order. **In the event that bids for the same amount are received for the same lot, the winning bid will be the earliest received.** The decision of the Auctioneer as to identity of the winning bidder shall be final. Any person submitting bids on behalf of a corporation or any other entity agrees to be personally liable for payment of the purchase price and any related charges as well as responsible for the performance of all buyer obligations under these terms of sale. No "buy" or unlimited bids will be accepted. No bids will be accepted from minors.

2 American Numismatic Rarities, LLC, (subsequently referred to as ANR in the Terms of Sale) reserves the right to postpone or cancel the auction without notice in its sole discretion. Any lot may be withdrawn by ANR without notice prior to it being opened for bidding. Neither ANR nor the consignor shall be liable for any costs or damages arising from either the withdrawal of material at the auction or the delay or cancellation of the auction.

3 The purchase price shall be sum of the winning bid and a buyer's premium of 15% of the amount of the winning bid. The purchase price shall be paid in full prior to delivery of the lot absent other arrangements between the successful bidder and ANR. The decision to extend a line of credit and the decision to withdraw a previously authorized line of credit shall be within the sole discretion of ANR. ANR reserves the right to deny participation in the auction if, in ANR's sole discretion, the bidder's prior business dealings with ANR have been unsatisfactory.

4 Payment shall be by cash in United States funds or checks drawn on United States banks. Purchases up to $10,000 may be charged to a credit card (MasterCard, Visa, AmEx, Discover). The purchase price shall be paid upon delivery of the lot or receipt of our invoice for the lot, whichever occurs first. All associated costs for the delivery of the lot such as handling, shipping, insurance, and related charges will be added to the purchase price for lots not picked up after the auction by the winning bidder. On any account not paid within the prescribed terms of sale, ANR reserves the right to extend credit and to impose periodic finance charges at the rate of 1-1/2% per month (18% per annum) on the unpaid balance. By bidding in the sale, the bidder agrees to permit ANR to file any financing statement permitted under the Uniform Commercial Code without debtor's signature and to offset any accounts due, whether now or in the future, against funds or collateral in their possession. The buyer agrees not to sell, pledge, or hypothecate the lots purchased until paid in full. If the account is referred to an attorney for collection, the buyer agrees to pay all costs, including attorneys' fees, with interest accruing on the balance, until fully paid, at the specified rate.

5 Bidders shall be responsible for all taxes due as a result of their purchases.

6 Title does not pass from the consignor to the successful bidder until the purchase price for the lot has been paid in full. The risk of loss is on the buyer once the lot is either in transit to the successful bidder or in their possession.

7 ANR reserves the right to establish the opening bid for any lot, to establish bidding increments, and to refuse any bid. ANR reserves the right to place bids on behalf of the consignor up to the amount of a reserve price established by the consignor. ANR will not accept a reserve price from a consignor above the high estimated value shown in the catalog for the auction and any exceptions to this rule will be announced at the auction prior to the opening of bidding on the material. ANR shall make reasonable efforts to properly enter and execute bids received by mail or by other means. However, ANR shall not be liable for any errors for incorrectly entered or incorrectly executed bids.

8 Bidders are responsible for their bids including any errors they may make in placing bids. All bids shall be in even dollar amounts and any bids not in whole dollar amounts will be rounded to the next highest dollar. All bid sheets must be signed, and ANR reserves the right to not accept unsigned bid sheets.

9 All items offered in this auction catalog are guaranteed to be genuine. **Buyer agrees that except for questions of authenticity, there is not right of return for any reason whatsoever for any coin certified by any third party certification service. Further, Buyer agrees that except for questions of authenticity, there is not right of return lots nor shall ANR accept any returned lots from any floor bidder or any bidder who examined the lots prior to the sale.** Mail, FAX and Internet bidders may make return requests within three days of the receipt of the lot. Coins must be returned to ANR's offices in Wolfeboro, N.H. within 30 days from the date of the auction. Any coin which has been physically altered or which has been removed from its container or holder shall not be returnable nor accepted by ANR.

10 Bidders by accepting these terms of sale acknowledge that the grading of coins is a subjective process for describing the relative ranking of coins as to their condition. Consequently, the language used to describe any coin in this catalog, including but not limited to the grading of such coin, are statements of subjective opinion by the ANR staff. **No warranty, whether expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability, is made with respect to any coin contained in this catalog.** In the event of a typographical error or other error, ANR reserves the right to withdraw any item from the auction with or without notice, to correct the error by verbal announcement before the lot is opened for bidding or, if the error is discovered after the auction, to refund the successful bidder's funds without further obligation. The maximum obligation of ANR to any bidder shall be the purchase price for any lot in dispute or for which a refund or adjustment is made for any reason.

11 ANR acts as an auctioneer to sell coins for the various consignors. Therefore, no claims of any kind can be considered by ANR after settlements, which occur 45 days after the auction, have been made with the consignors. Any dispute after the settlement date except for reasons of authenticity, is to be resolved strictly by discussions between the successful bidder and consignor.

12 Cash advances may have been made to some consignors in anticipation of auction proceeds. ANR may consign items to this auction and may participate as a bidder. ANR or the consignor may bid for their own account at the auction and may have information not otherwise available to the bidders regarding reserves, bid values, and other material facts relating to the lots opened for bidding at the auction. When a lot is sold to the book, it may be sold, passed over, withdrawn from the auction, returned to the owner or bought by ANR. Any consignor may bid on any lot, including lots containing coins consigned by the consignor.

13 By placing a bid in this sale, a bidder agrees that this transaction shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire and that neither New Hampshire's or any other state's choice of laws and/or conflict of laws shall be applied. Any dispute between ANR and bidders at the auction (except for non-payment) shall be settled exclusively by binding arbitration under the rules then in effect of the Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc. conducted at Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. In the event of non-payment, ANR and a successful bidder agree that any judicial action shall be heard and determined only by the courts of the State of New Hampshire and the successful bidder hereby consents and submits to the personal jurisdiction of the courts of New Hampshire.

14 In the event of litigation, the party against whom a final judgment is rendered shall pay the prevailing parties' legal costs, including attorneys fees and witness fees, and all other costs incurred by it during the course of such litigation.

15 **These Terms of Sale are intended to be part of all lot descriptions contained in this catalogue.** Bidding in this auction sale constitutes acceptance by the bidder of the foregoing Terms of Sale.

Additional Information for Bidders

To insure we receive your bids, please have mail and fax bids to us by **NOON, Eastern Time Friday, January 7, 2005**

- There will be pre-sale and live bidding available on the internet at www. anrcoins.com.
- Pre-registration to bid during the live auction required by Friday, January 7, 2005.
- Any requests for live bidding by phone (minimum bid: $5,000) must be placed by Friday, January 7, 2005.

Phone Descriptions: Any request for phone descriptions should be made by Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2004.

Prices Realized will be published approximately 30 days after the auction. Prices realized will be posted on the Internet soon after the sale at www.anrcoins.com

New Bidders: If you are a new bidder, be sure to send your credit information: Attn: Laurel Morrill, at least 10 days before the auction. There is very little time, if any, to review this information during the auction. All bidders not known to us will be required to submit a 25% deposit before bidding in the sale.

Floor Bidder Registration will begin 30 minutes before the sale at the entrance to the auction room.

Please note: Transparent holders in which the auction lots are stored are to facilitate viewing and inspection of the lots and ARE NOT intended for long-term storage

Suggestions for Mail Bidders

Bidding in our auctions can be an interesting, enjoyable, and numismatically rewarding experience. Even if you are an experienced bidder, you may find that some of the following comments will increase your success. In the event that you wish to ask further questions, phone Cynthia LaCarbonara.

Mail your bid sheet as early as possible. This is particularly important if you are a new bidder, for it takes us time to check your references. A bid sheet mailed a few days before the sale might not reach us until a week later—at which time the coins will have been sold to others!

As the sale date draws near, fax us your bids anytime 24 hours a day [our fax number is (603) 569-3875]. Or, telephone your bids to our Auction Department. Please follow up your phone and fax bids with written confirmation.

We've found it best to use a work sheet to compile bids. In this way you can check back and forth throughout the catalogue, make changes and revisions, and so on. Then when you've decided on your final bids, enter them on the bid sheet. Try your best to keep the bid sheet neat and clearly understandable, listing the lots in order. Check your bid sheet carefully. You will be responsible for any bids on wrong lots or for the wrong amounts. Please be careful.

Don't bid more than you want to pay! Review your financial circumstances carefully before bidding. There is always the possibility that you may be awarded all of the lots you bid on. If you are awarded lots, you are legally bound to pay for them immediately.

Please keep current prices levels in mind when bidding. While high and low prices sometimes occur, most items sell within market ranges. If a popular coin sells for $500 on the retail market, chances are not good that a bid of, say, less than $400 will win it. On the other hand, chances are excellent that a bid in the $500-$600 range will be competitive. There is no harm in bargain hunting, but as your time is valuable (and so is ours), it is most productive if you keep current values in mind while bidding. The higher you bid, the greater your chances are for success. It has been our experience that many people who bid strongly, or check the options to increase bids by an optional 10% to 30% actually purchase at least some lots below their maximum authorization once the sale takes place.

Ink is best for writing bids. Pencil tends to blur. If bid changes are necessary, do not write over figures. Instead, cross them out completely and re-enter the bids. Put your telephone number on the bid sheet. This way we can call you if there is a question about a bid.

Lots may be inspected by mail prior to the auction (except for large or bulk lots, or other multiple-coin lots). Please write or call for further information. Mail inspection requests must be received sufficiently early to permit return to us in time for general lot viewing prior to the sale. The person requesting mail inspection agrees to pay postage and insurance both ways and to insure and be responsible for the pieces in his or her possession.

Special Bidding Options

Total Expenditure

If you wish to limit your total expenditure, please fill in the maximum amount you wish to spend on the TOTAL EXPENDITURE line on your bid sheet. You can then submit bids for amounts up to eight times the amount of the maximum expenditure. This is a personal service and an ANR customer representative will personally attend to your bid sheet by bidding from the auction floor, buying lots for your account until your authorized expenditure is reached. While we will do our best in your behalf, due to the speed of the auction sale and the sometimes crowded conditions, we cannot be responsible for failure to execute such a bid properly. Due to the bookkeeping involved, this service is offered only to bidders with maximum expenditures of $1,000 or more. TOTAL EXPENDITURE and SINGLE LOT GROUP bidding can be combined.

Single Lot Group

Up to five lots may be grouped with brackets for a SINGLE LOT GROUP purchase, if you wish to purchase only one example of a coin of which several examples appear in the sale. Such lots should be bracketed on your bid sheet. While we will do our best on your behalf, due to the speed of the auction sale and the sometimes crowded conditions, we cannot be responsible for failure to execute such a bid properly.

Optional Percentage Increase

We invite you to take advantage of the optional 10% to 30% increase to help your chance of being a successful bidder. Check the appropriate place on your bid sheet.

OUR CONSIGNOR

Kenneth H. Smith

Just about every kid who grew up in the '50s or at just about anytime, for that matter, collected something. I was no different. I always had a fondness for history and the past, and old things were that connection to history.

My first collections consisted of bubble gum cards, stamps (not necessarily postal stamps) and pennants. I had baseball and football pennants as well as pennants from events and places. Besides the usual baseball and football sports cards, we collected airplane and automobile cards.

I started collecting coins in the fifth grade when I was about eleven years old. My mother, who also saved things, was responsible for starting me on coins. I can remember one day, she said to me, "Ken, we should collect coins. How about if I collect pennies and you collect nickels?" She supplied the Whitman books. From that day on I started looking at every coin to check the date and mint mark. Early on, every nickel I got was a keeper. I soon learned about condition and every time I got a duplicate, I would have to check it against the one in my book to see if it was better. I also found that many other kids were also collecting coins which gave me the opportunity to trade for ones I didn't have. My best finds from those days were a 1932-D quarter and a 1921 half which I still have today.

Like most of the boys I grew up with, I delivered papers to earn money. When collecting payment, I learned that visiting each customer at the right time was very important. I didn't find it profitable to have to come back if they weren't home. I also found that some people didn't always have a lot of money at certain times of the week. Catching them at the right time meant they would have to raid their cookie jar or some stash where I might get an older coin or two.

In my second year of high school I quit delivering papers because of other school activities. During my junior year I had a part-time job at a food distribution company across the street from school. By that time I had started sets of dimes and quarters and halves and was missing most of the keys and some better dates in each one. Although my interest never waned, I found that the available money I had was going for other things. At one point thinking that I could easily replace them at a later date, I even spent some of the more common date quarters and halves from my collection. I was wrong. After the government changed the composition, the silver coins disappeared from circulation pretty fast.

After two and one half years in college in the middle '60s, I quit and got an apprenticeship at a large printing company in Chicago. Six months later I got drafted and spent the next two years from July 1967 to June 1969 in the Army. When I realized I was going to be out of harm's way and spend most of my time stationed in West Germany, I got married and brought my new wife over there to live. While there, I resumed my interest in coins and started saving all of the silver I could find. There seemed to be a lot over there, at least more than I could keep, so I had to be selective and saved only Mercury dimes and earlier quarters and halves. I even managed to save some German commemorative 5 mark issues that they released at the banks.

Upon my return home, I went back to the apprenticeship I had started. Everything was going well. In June of 1970 our first child, a daughter, was born. Halfway through the next year I got some bad news. The printing company was going to lay off people because both *Life* and *Look* magazines, which they printed, were going out of business. My parents had moved to a farm in Southwestern Wisconsin where they raised beef cattle and ran a small manufacturing business they had conducted in the basement of our family home in Blue Island, Illinois. After 28 years at a large forging company in the suburbs of Chicago, my dad called it quits and wanted to devote his time to making Harley-Davidson motorcycle parts and farming. I liked that area, and thought it would be a nice place to raise a family. After receiving the layoff news, I drove to Wisconsin and talked to my folks. They welcomed us and so began my career at S&S Cycle in the motorcycle parts manufacturing business. Once again, things were going well, and in March of 1973 we had a son.

Several years later I started collecting again. From time to time I went to small local coin shows and when in Chicago, I would stop and see Larry Whitlow, whose father and my father were the best of friends. As my financial situation improved, I began to buy coins. My first passion was Buffalo nickels which I bought during the late '70s and early '80s. With the set pretty much complete, I turned to Mercury dimes and Walking Liberty halves, until a Seated half that I bought at a local auction changed things.

In 1986 I went to my first summer ANA convention which was in Milwaukee, and soon afterwards I joined the ANA as a Life Member. Going to the large coin shows was a terrific experience as everything imaginable was there to see. When viewing auction lots, some of the coin world's great rarities were assembled in boxes. There were multiples of different dates giving you the opportunity to compare grades and color. At those shows I started buying Seated halves, at first in Fine to Very Fine condition, but it wasn't long before I was upgrading. When the reference books on Seated coins came out, I bought them all from half dimes to half dollars. I met Jim O'Donnell who always seemed to have the tougher dates. From him I bought my first Carson City coin, an 1878 Carson City half. Several years before I had gone out to Reno, Nevada for fun and took a side trip to Carson City and Virginia City. While there I visited the old Carson City Mint which I enjoyed, and now I owned a coin that was made there. I became fascinated with Carson City coins—I think growing up in the '50s with all of the cowboy movies and TV shows about the West had something to do with it.

I continued to collect and to enjoy the hobby. It was extremely gratifying to later find out that some of the pieces I had purchased were among the finest known. I'm sorry I didn't buy more when I had the chance. But then, I guess hindsight is 20-20.

WELCOME

to our sale

THE KENNYWOOD COLLECTION

By Q. David Bowers



Quality and Rarity Beckon!

The Kennywood Collection sale has been an absolute delight for all of us at American Numismatic Rarities. The *quality* of many, if not most of the coins is significantly finer than usually encountered—the result of connoisseurship by the main consignor, a long-time numismatist and careful scholar of our hobby, who has suggested "Kennywood" as the title. To the Kennywood coins have been added choice and interesting specimens from other consignors, combining to create one of our best sales ever!

Rarity never goes out of style, and when a really special coin comes up for bidding, there is lots of excitement. In the pages to follow there are enough rarities to make a museum display! More than just a few pieces are doubly rare—elusive as a basic variety and even more difficult to find in the high condition offered.

Quality and rarity beckon in a sale which has had few equals in our generation. To be sure, there are hundreds of other items—desirable coins in many series, not headline rarities, that will play to a very wide audience, yielding something of interest to just about everyone.

The key word is *opportunity.* Take advantage of it!

You Are Invited

We all hope that you will be part of the Kennywood Collection sale. You can participate in several interesting and effective ways: by mail, by live internet, by telephone, or by attending in person. In the meantime, immerse yourself in the descriptions of the over 1,000 lots offered, and contemplate which pieces would look just right in your collection. After every sale we receive comments such as, "I wish I had bought that coin!" Right now, as you read these words, opportunities abound. The market is strong and choice coins are in demand. For pieces of special appeal, bid as strongly as you can. Then, the day after the sale you can say, "I own it!" rather than, "I wonder where I can find one?" Again, *opportunity* now awaits you.

The Kennywood Collection sale will be in the lovely Radisson Bahia Mar Beach Resort in Fort Lauderdale, a great place to visit. Come, bring your family, and enjoy what we hope will be some warm weather, while in the North snow and ice may be the order of the day. The time is Monday, January 10th. The sale begins at one o'clock in the afternoon and goes non-stop into the evening. You and other registered bidders will be our guests at a buffet dinner at about five o'clock.

Come, meet and greet our fine staff, and buy a few coins. You'll have a great experience and you will have many great opportunities. Afterward, you have two days of leisure in Florida—to participate in other numismatic events in the city, or to check out a few of the state's famous tourist attractions. Or, weather permitting, you can just stretch out on a sandy beach. Then, on Thursday, the 13th, the Florida United Numismatists (FUN) convention opens in town at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center. We'll be having a table/display there, and I invite you to rejoin us to buy, sell, consign, or simply talk about coins. All of us look forward to the FUN convention, which is *fun* in more ways than one.

Kennywood Collection Sale Highlights

To mention *all* of the highlights in this sale would require many pages. Choice and desirable coins

abound! Colonial and early American coins lead the program, including a very nice selection of 1652-dated Massachusetts silver coins. Such coins never go out of style. A few weeks ago a long-time dealer friend, Mr. S., who in his career has seen just about everything, was so proud of his newly-acquired Pine Tree shilling that he brought it to Baltimore (during our Frog Run Farm Collection sale and the following convention) to show it to me! Of course, I was delighted to see it.

Copper half cents include many items (the *opportunity* word keeps coming to mind), what with a 1795 Lettered Edge in choice Mint State (a type several times scarcer than the Plain Edge issue, in our experience) and an 1811 Restrike. Regarding the latter, these are so rare that most auction firms are lucky to present a single coin in a decade! For us, it was only yesterday, actually last month, that we offered another specimen! Nice things do come in pairs, it seems!

Large copper cents are the foundation of American numismatics, Dr. William H. Sheldon wrote in 1949. Today, this is still true. There is a certain charm possessed by early copper (see "Strawberry" note below) that has few equals anywhere else. Some really great large cents are in the offering, including a marvelous *gem Mint State* 1793 Chain AMERICA, a coin of legendary importance! Did you know that the first full photographic plate in a numismatic periodical published in the United States appeared in the *American Journal of Numismatics* in 1869 and was devoted to 1793 cents, including one of this variety? It is true.

Then come other one-cent pieces, down to the 20th century, with a *Proof* 1864 L Indian cent being of special importance, for fewer than 20 are known to exist. Two-cent pieces, silver trimes, nickel three-cent pieces, and other coins await you. In the nickel five-cent series a great run of Buffalo nickels will capture the fancy of specialists.

Liberty Seated silver coins in all series include breathtaking pieces—gem Mint State and Proof examples, including rarest-of-the-rare, finest-of-the-fine pieces of a quality seldom seen or encountered. During the cataloguing process for this sale, conducted by Frank Van Valen, John Pack, Beth Piper, John Kraljevich, and me, we all marveled at these pieces, mostly from the main Kennywood Collection consignment. If Liberty Seated coins are your forte, this is your sale! If you have not yet discovered this specialty, there is no *opportunity* better than this to get involved!

Silver dollars, one of our favorite series, include Mint State examples of both die varieties of the 1795 Draped Bust, the first appearance of this popular design (based on a sketch of a society belle by Gilbert Stuart, best known for his Washington portrait). An 1839 Gobrecht dollar bears the remarkable grade of Proof-66, after which will be found other delights such as Proof strikings of the 1844, 1849, and 1850 Liberty Seated dollars. Then....

The 1866 No Motto Silver Dollar

A thrill awaits you when the only available specimen of the 1866 No Motto Liberty Seated silver dollar comes up for sale, a landmark coin, and a landmark opportunity.

Last year, ANR made national headlines when John Kraljevich, Jr., learned that the *other* example of this coin, missing since 1967, was in the possession of a gentleman in Maine. Contact was made, the coin was carefully examined, the duPont family (owners of the coin at the time of its disappearance) was brought into the scenario, and the treasure was repatriated. Presently, it is on exhibit at the American Numismatic Association Museum in Colorado Springs, after having gone on a "tour" under the watchful eye of ANA Executive Director Chris Cipoletti.

While the duPont-ANA coin is not for sale for any price, the other example, offered here, is available, to the highest bidder! In the elite roster of great silver dollar rarities we have the 1794 (about 135 known), the "King of American Coins" 1804 (15), the 1870-S (10), and the 1866 No Motto (2). That's right, the coin we offer is one of just two in existence. Moreover, it is the only one available for sale!

What will happen? For sure, there will be a lot of excitement, this following on the heels of a related offering in another series: The entire coin-collecting world was electrified by our sale last month of the 1793 Strawberry Leaf copper cent, graded just Fine-12 (NGC), but twice as nice as the next finest example. Opened for bidding at $150,000, the coin went up, and up, and up some more as auctioneer Chris Karstedt caught bids from all around the sale room. Then, $414,000! Applause broke out, and the echoes still linger.

Now, the 1866 No-Motto dollar comes on stage....

In the Spotlight

Rounding out the dollar series are many interesting Morgan and Peace varieties, including key dates and high grades in the spotlight, with a choice Mint State 1893-S on center stage and a spectacular *Proof-69* 1896 in a supporting role. The enjoyment of build-

ing a fine collection of about 100 different Morgan and 24 different Peace dollars is shared by many. The Kennywood Collection sale will help you fill in some of those blank spaces. Trade dollars come next, highlighted by a gem 1878-CC, a seldom-encountered issue.

The Greenwood Collection consignment comes into view as the core of the gold section of our sale. While coins of all denominations are offered, the Greenwood Collection puts special emphasis on early half eagles—those elusive, beautiful, and very interesting varieties from the 1790s and early 1800s. Recently, I had a preview of a marvelous new book being done by John Dannreuther for the Harry W. Bass, Jr., Foundation, an encyclopedic study of $2.50, $5, and $10 coins by die varieties and states, to be designated by BD (Bass-Dannreuther) numbers. I will be writing the foreword. When this book is published, you can further enjoy some of the early gold coins you buy in our present sale! As you know, my basic philosophy is that the ownership of a coin provides one unit of enjoyment, a *good* book about it furnishes another unit, and together, 1 + 1 = 3, not just 2!

It seems like only yesterday, but was in the 1970s, when Ed Trompeter set about building a collection of one of every Proof gold coin from 1858 to 1915. Along the way, I and other dealers played a dynamic part as he captured rarities here and there, including from the memorable Eliasberg Gold Coin Collection I catalogued in 1982. Thirty years later, Ed had obtained every Proof except for an 1858 double eagle. In the present sale I could not help but recall this effort as I gazed upon amazing Proof rarities of the 1850s, 1860s and 1870s. Again, *opportunity.*

And, There Is More!

By this time you know that an *extraordinary* sale awaits you. But, there is more. Pattern coins have endless fascination, especially since Whitman issued the 8th edition of the Judd book two years ago (the 9th edition is in the planning stage). A *crème de la crème* pattern coin, one seldom seen and even more seldom offered for sale, is Judd-1992, a 1916 Liberty Walking half dollar, distinctive for its large capital letter in the midst of others, as LiberTy, which might have been inspired by the logotype of WurliTzer, famous maker of theatre pipe organs (another of my interests).

Territorial and private gold comes to the fore as the Kennywood Collection sale draws to a close. A Miners' Bank gold $10 is, of course, a classic. The 1849 Norris, Gregg & Norris $5 may have been the first gold issue in California, making its appearance by May of that year, preceding Moffat and other coiners. The *defining* coin of the Gold Rush is the $50 "slug," and in this sale we offer several. A delightful gold ingot from the *S.S. Central America* treasure, a bar bearing the imprint of Justh & Hunter and attributed to its Marysville office, will be greatly appreciated by its new owner.

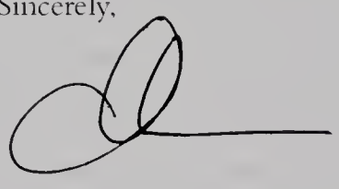
When the Time Comes....

Sooner or later, you'll be thinking of selling your coins—perhaps a specialized series as your interest shifts to another challenging area of the hobby, or perhaps your entire collection. When that happens, let us be your partner.

Right now, Dr. Rick Bagg and John Pack, our auction directors, are gathering consignments for our next several sales, as is Chris Karstedt. Give them a call, or e-mail, or send a letter, for immediate attention! And, I stand ready to help as well. Already in house are many truly remarkable coins and other items—assuring that *your* coins will be in good company. At American Numismatic Rarities our emphasis is on *quality.* Each sale receives my careful personal attention as well as the talents of everyone else on the staff—a group of people whose collective experience and expertise I consider unmatched in numismatics. The "dream team" is at your service.

Thank you for being a part of the Kennywood Collection sale, and thank you for being a friend of American Numismatic Rarities. From our entire staff, all good wishes to you and yours for a great New Year and for the coming months in 2005 to be ones of happiness and good health. We look forward to contributing to your enjoyment of numismatics.

Sincerely,



Q. David Bowers
Numismatic Director

THE SESSION

Monday, January 10 - 1:00 pm Sharp

Colonial and U.S. Coins; Private and Territorial Gold;
California Small Denomination Gold; Pattern Coins: Lots 1-1208

STATE ROOM C

Radisson Bahia Mar Beach Resort

COLONIAL AND EARLY AMERICAN COINS

Our selection of early American coins is led by a fine grouping of Massachusetts silver coins by die variety, duplicates from a noted specialized collection. Two noted rarities included here stand astride the American and Canadian series: the 1670 5 sols and the 1794 Copper Company of Upper Canada token. Several other high grade specimens of popular types are also up for bids.

Superb Noe-7 Oak Tree Shilling

Choice Extremely Fine or Better



(2x photo)

1 **1652 Massachusetts Oak Tree Shilling. Noe-7. Rarity-5. EF-45+.** 73.5 grains. A superb example of this elusive Oak Tree variety, finer than both Hain coins, one being the Noe plate piece. Obverse is frosty deep slate gray with silvery highlights, while the reverse is pewter gray with some remaining lustre in protected areas. The reverse, as always on this variety, is sharper, but the tree on the obverse is remarkably well defined for the issue. Nearly round, good centering though rims affect a substantial portion of ETS IN between 3:00 and 6:00 on the obverse. The reverse is ideally centered, again as typical, with exceptional detail and all letters complete. Die state appears a shade later than the Hain primary coin (Noe's plate for the die state and variety), with a more substantial break above A at 3:00. The color and visual appeal of this specimen makes it worthy of any finicky collector's cabinet, while its technical sharpness and near absence of wear makes it ideal for an advanced specialist in the series. An important specimen of the variety.

From Bowers and Ruddy's sale of February 1976, Lot 1005; a specialized collection.

Beautiful VF Noe-9 Oak Tree Shilling



(2x photo)

2 **1652 Massachusetts Oak Tree shilling. Noe-9. Rarity-5. VF-30.** 69.1 grains. A beautiful Very Fine example of this popular and

attractively rendered variety. Fully round, measuring 29.1 mm from both axes, with perfect deep slate gray toning and lighter design elements. A trifle weak at the periphery between 4:00 and 5:00 on the obverse and the same area (7:00-8:00) on the reverse, affecting TS on one side and NE on the other, but very boldly impressed elsewhere on this broad planchet. The tree shows definitive detail. Positively choice, no problematical marks or post-striking flaws, a single very old nick is noted just right of IN on the obverse. This Oak Tree shilling may well satisfy a collector who has long sought an unusually attractive specimen.

From a specialized collection.

Very Bold Noe-13 Oak Tree 12d



(2x photo)

3 **1652 Massachusetts Oak Tree shilling. Noe-13. Rarity-6. EF-40.** 70.7 grains. An uncommonly bold specimen of this rare variety, with superb tree detail that vaults it into the EF range. Pleasing antique silver gray with some underlying golden toning. Natural planchet flaw at 6:00 on obverse affects N, located nearly identically to the planchet split on the tertiary Hain coin. All letters of legend are distinct, though ND are a bit weak as struck, nearly full border beads present on obverse. The central obverse detail is well above average for the variety, easily rivaling the two choice EF coins in Hain. No notable defects, excellent visual appeal for the grade. Specialists in the series will recognize where this piece stands among other Noe-13 Oak Trees, and type collectors may find this piece to be a prime opportunity to purchase a classic Oak Tree that will never need to be upgraded.

From a specialized collection.

Sharply Struck Oak Tree Sixpence

Choice VF

An Elusive Type Coin



(2x photo)

4 **1652 Massachusetts Oak Tree sixpence. Noe-22. Rarity-5. VF-35.** 31.7 grains. A bold specimen of this tough-to-find early American type. Lightly toned antique silver gray with excellent visual appeal. Some very light scattered marks are mentioned, old dull nick below second A of MASATHVSETS, some trifling roughness around central reverse design elements and elsewhere. Especially well struck for the issue, with a complete tree (!), making the detail on this piece far in excess of the detail found on any of the three Hain coins. All legends are present and legible, though ANO at the base of the reverse is affected by the edge. An important specimen, one which showcases the design of this scarce little coin in a way that most survivors do not. A typical piece is well worn and a bit wavy, with mushy central obverse definition; this one is far better.

From a specialized collection.

Elusive 1662 Oak Tree 2d

"Large 2"



(2x photo)

5 **1662 Massachusetts Oak Tree twopence. Noe-33. Rarity-6. EF-40.** 10.9 grains. A charming specimen of this important type coin, the only Massachusetts silver denomination not authorized by the initial 1652 legislation and thus the only type to feature the 1662 date. Old toning in shades of light blue and pale gold graces medium silver gray surfaces. Obverse struck towards 9:00, reverse ideally centered, all letters complete and centers boldly defined. The date stands out sharply, as does the denomination—both are unique among Massachusetts silver types. Horizontal die crack between W and E on reverse crosses date and stops atop 2. A delightful little coin. Any enthusiast of early American issues who seeks to dabble in Massachusetts silver should include a specimen of this distinctive emission.

From a specialized collection.

Lovely VF Pine Tree 12d
Large Planchet



6 **1652 Massachusetts Pine Tree shilling. Noe-8. Rarity-3. VF-25.** 69.8 grains. Deep pewter gray with beautiful golden highlights and hints of bluish toning amidst the sedate reverse lustre. Technically finer than the grade we have assigned, but the natural curvature of the planchet has made the central obverse more worn than elsewhere—the reverse is easily of EF quality. The obverse legends are complete and ideally centered, and the reverse also shows all design elements intact. A really choice Pine Tree shilling for the grade, a coin that will be enjoyed for as long as you own it.

Lovely Large Planchet Pine Tree



(2x photo)

7 **1652 Massachusetts Pine Tree shilling. N-10. Rarity-3. AU-50 (PCGS).** 71.0 grains. Attractive deep pewter gray with multicolored undertones. Well centered for this variety with the tops of the letters at the base of the obverse just barely off the planchet and the reverse neatly centered. A few old scrapes are noted at AS on obverse, excellent tree detail, a very bold specimen. Finer than the Hain secondary coin. An excellent large planchet type coin of which the next owner may be rightly proud.

Very Rare 1652 Pine Tree Shilling
Noe-18, Rarity-6+



8 **1652 Massachusetts Pine Tree shilling. Noe-18. Rarity-6+. VF-20.** 66.9 grains. Pleasing peripheral toning in pale coppery shades neatly frames even silver gray centers. This piece shows excellent old toning that suggests a long history of appreciation in numismatic cabinets. Smooth and very attractive with no major flaws, just gentle circulation wear. All letters are visible but for HV at the top of the obverse, which are rather weak, and EN at the same area of the reverse is slightly better defined but still not fully detailed. All other legends and design elements, including centers, are boldly defined. A highly elusive variety, Hain owned only one specimen (the Parmelee Choice EF that ranks among the best known) and Michael Hodder noted that he had "seen only a small handful of specimens." This piece is struck on a nicely made and nearly round planchet, while the lovely Hain coin did show an edge flaw at 6:00. Specialized collectors of Massachusetts silver by die variety are still relatively few in number, but many of those active undoubtedly lack this extremely difficult Noe number.

From a specialized collection.

Very Rare Noe-23 Pine Tree Shilling
Latest Die State



9 **1652 Massachusetts Pine Tree shilling. Noe-23. Rarity-6+. F-15** or better where fully struck up. 67.3 grains. Antique silver gray with pleasing smooth surfaces. An unusual example, softly struck in areas at the top and bottom of the obverse and reverse but quite bold at left and right. The tree is mostly plain, MASA is bold and TS IN is visible on the obverse, while the reverse is far bolder, with NEW E N AN DO plain in addition to most of the date and denomination. The diagnostic die break of this near terminal state is very well defined below A at 3:00 at central reverse. While this coin may just look unevenly worn, comparison should be made to the ANS example (ANS 1942.54.4, illustrated on the ANS website for easy comparison). That coin, while sharper overall, shows nearly identical weakness at 12:00 and 6:00 on the obverse and likewise on the reverse, as the Noe 23 dies failed in such a way as to preclude a bold strike in those areas in this die state. The second Hain coin, described as "struck from the rare late state of these dies," shows clash marks in the area and an earlier state of the bulges seen here. The damage caused by those clashes continued to worsen, and this piece must be counted as one of the latest die state pieces known of this very rare Noe number. A truly fasci-

nating piece of Massachusetts silver. Michael Hodder counted only 13 specimens known in his cataloguing of the Hain sale; this piece was likely among that number.

From a specialized collection.

Complete Pine Tree Threepence

A Remarkable Strike



(2x photo)

10 **1652 Massachusetts Pine Tree threepence. Noe-36. Rarity-4. EF-40.** 15.8 grains. An incredibly desirable example of this popular type coin. Deep pewter gray with slate blue undertones on smooth, glossy surfaces. A beautiful piece, distinctive for its completeness, as each and every letter is visible on the unusually broad planchet. Indeed, both obverse and reverse peripheries show nearly full beading and the lettering is 100% complete. The eye appeal is superb, and we note only some trivial old scratches at the base of the tree and a bit of faint granularity amidst the reverse legends. Grading numbers can be used to quantify wear, but some things just need to be described—anyone who has sought a Pine Tree threepence that looks like this one will understand what makes this a far better piece than most "EF" coins on the market. A coin worthy of a strong bid.

From a specialized collection.



11 **1760 Voce Populi halfpenny. Nelson-2, Zelinka 4-B. AU-55 (NGC).** 104.8 grains. Glossy chocolate brown with slightly lighter design elements. Mostly smooth, sharp enough that the lapping lines in the obverse die are still visible in the field, a trace of raised verdigris in the left reverse field. Very well made for this often crude issue, a type coin whose quality and provenance speaks for itself.

From the collections of Hillyer Ryder and F.C.C. Boyd; Stack's sale of the Ford Collection, October 2004, Lot 12.



12 **1760 Voce Populi halfpenny. Nelson-3, Zelinka 7-E. AU-55 (NGC).** 108.3 grains. The "VOOE" variety. Glossy chocolate brown with slightly darker toning around design elements and peripheries. Smooth and appealing with only some minor, typical planchet fissures. Good detail throughout. Though the VOOE variety is popular as a die variety, this piece's quality would make it an excellent type coin as well.

From the collections of Hillyer Ryder and F.C.C. Boyd; Stack's sale of the Ford Collection, October 2004, Lot 18.

High-Grade 1760 Voce Populi



13 **1760 Voce Populi halfpenny. Nelson-4, Zelinka 2-A. AU-58 (PCGS).** 108.2 grains. A beautiful specimen of this popular coinage, graded identically by PCGS and Michael Hodder (who termed the piece "Choice About Uncirculated"). Boldly struck and well centered on a broad planchet. Deep olive-brown with excellent surface quality. All legends and design elements are well defined and complete, including the date, which is often found off the planchet. The full frame of dentils around the obverse adds a cameo-like quality to this piece. A superb type coin, fit for the finest of cabinets, and just the sort of Voce Populi piece a collector should choose if they need just one for their collection.

From the collections of Hillyer Ryder, F.C.C. Boyd, and John J. Ford, Jr.; Stack's sale of the Ford Collection, October 2004, Lot 6.

Classic 1670 5 Sols Rarity

The First Silver Issue for French America



14 **French colonies. 1670-A 5 sols. Breen-256. EF-40.** 35.0 grains. A beautiful example of one of the only 17th century silver issues produced explicitly for use in North America, along with Massachusetts silver and Maryland/Lord Baltimore coinages. Attractive medium silver gray with old cabinet toning highlights of light blue

and deep golden gray. The fields remain lively and retain a trace of lustre. Somewhat weak at centers, as often seen on this issue due to its thin planchet, with the central portion of the French shield flat and a few little planchet fissures there not hit with enough pressure to obliterate them. No significant marks or other flaws. A very nice example of this issue, one we imagine we have seen more specimens of than most (due to a long-standing special interest in French colonials). Several minor die varieties are known (though we know only one person with a die variety collection of this rare issue); this one shows a thin die crack from the right side of the sun to a dentil left of FR atop the reverse.

A classic early American issue, a piece that every colonial coin collector worth his salt owned in the 19th century but today has been left largely ignored. French colonial coins are key to a complete understanding of the early American monetary scene, not only because the cities of Nouvelle France had a lively trade with New England (even during wartime), but because a substantial percentage of the modern United States was once under French dominion—18 of America's 50 largest cities once spoke French. We have always believed that a collection of early American coins should include at least a type collection of French colonial issues that were used in North America, and with the great rarity of the 1670 15 sols (not to mention the unique status of the 1670 double de l'amerique), only this rare 5 sols issue is left from this first special mintage for Nouvelle France. An important rarity whose value and unique place in history is terribly underrated in the modern marketplace.

While the work covers billon coins—not silver issues of 1670—we recommend the purchase of Bob Vlack's newest work called *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coins in the Americas*, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4). The work may be ordered online at www.colonialcoins.org.



15 **1783 Nova Constellatio copper. Crosby 2-B. Small US, Pointed Rays. EF-40 (PCGS).** Attractive even dark brown with slightly lighter design elements. A nice quality piece, a little soft at centers as usually seen but exhibiting no significant post striking flaws. The surfaces show some very faint granularity under magnification but retain good gloss and overall aesthetic appeal. A nice type coin.

High Quality 1785 Nova Constellatio



16 **1785 Nova Constellatio copper. Crosby 3-B. Large US, Pointed Rays. MS-63 BN (NGC).** Glossy dark olive-brown with very nice eye appeal. Central eye is softly struck, as often seen, and some light abrasions are noted at the extreme peripheries. A nicely detailed specimen of this popular type.

Joseph Felt, writing in 1839, saw so many Nova Constellatios in his youth in Massachusetts that he assumed they were an official issue. Any collection that centers on types that actually circulated in the nascent U.S. should include a specimen.

Sharp 1788 Massachusetts Half Cent



17 **1788 Massachusetts half cent. Ryder 1-B. Rarity-2. AU-58 (PCGS).** Mottled dark brown with some maroon undertones in the fields. Good central sharpness, a trifle granular at peripheries, dig under left wing. Early die state. A sharp type coin.



18 **1788 Massachusetts half cent. Ryder 1-B. Rarity-2. AU-58 (NGC).** Glossy medium brown with attractive woodgrain toning. A very nice specimen of this popular type, some scattered tiny nicks and a few as-struck pits so common to this issue, short scratch over eagle's tail, some blunt striking on Indian's head. The eye appeal is excellent and the central strikes are bold. No significant planchet flaws are noted. A fine example for a well-formed collection.

Choice 1787 Massachusetts Cent

Ryder's Own Specimen



19 **1787 Massachusetts cent. Ryder 3-G. Rarity-3-. AU-58 (NGC).** Glossy medium brown with smooth surfaces and very choice color. A lovely example, ranking high on any judgement of aesthetic quality. Some scattered nicks may be seen, and a bit of verdigris clings to various design elements. A sharp and well-preserved specimen that was nice enough for both lifelong dealer Harlan Page Smith and the man who wrote the standard reference on the series, Hillyer Ryder, to include this piece in their collections.

From S.H. and Henry Chapman's sale of the H.P. Smith Collection, May 1906, Lot 88; Hillyer Ryder to F.C.C. Boyd to John J. Ford, Jr., Stack's sale of the Ford Collection, October 2004, Lot 96.

High Quality 1788 Massachusetts Cent



20 **1788 Massachusetts cent. Ryder 10-L. Rarity-2+. MS-61 BN.** Highly glossy medium brown with traces of coppery maroon around design elements. A pleasing specimen of this second and final cent emission of the Massachusetts mint, nicely detailed on a good planchet. Some light granularity may be detected with a glass and a few pits are noted right of the Indian's head. Rarely are 1788 Massachusetts cents found sharper, and this one was nice enough to include in Ryder's personal collection.

From Thomas Elder's 60th sale, March 1912, Lot 798; Hillyer Ryder to F.C.C. Boyd to John J. Ford, Jr.; Stack's sale of the Ford Collection, October 2004, Lot 137.

Near Mint State 1788 Massachusetts Cent



21 **1788 Massachusetts cent. Ryder 12-M. Rarity-4-. AU-58 (NGC).** Mottled woodgrained medium brown with a trace of olive-shaded highlights around design elements. Mostly smooth and glossy, some inherent roughness where the central reverse was not quite struck up, a microscopic patch of pitting right of the arrow shaft on the obverse. Good detail in the Indian's head, all major design elements complete. A good-looking type coin from this early American emission.



22 **1787 Connecticut copper. M. 4-L. Rarity-1. Mailed bust left. EF-40 (PCGS).** Pleasing medium brown with good gloss and visual appeal. Some very light roughness may be seen with magnification but is not discernible to the naked eye, though a couple of tiny pits are seen below I of INDE and above the olive sprig. Nicely struck, late die state with very large "horn" now totally connected to the bust. While not rare as a die variety, many specialists assemble die state collections of Miller 4-Ls and others enjoy it is a distinctive type coin.



23 **1787 Connecticut copper. M. 12-Q. Rarity-3. Mailed Bust Left, 1787/1887. VF-25.** 124.6 grains. A charming specimen of this popular overdate variety, with its die variety painted neatly in the left obverse field by some collector generations ago. Pleasing light to medium brown, smooth and glossy in areas but with two substantial planchet cracks adding to the primitive look of this piece. One crack begins just above 9:00 on the obverse rim through OR of AUCTORI, while another crosses the figures forehead to near center obverse. The planchet flaw affects the first digit of the date on the reverse, but the 7 is still clearly punched over an erroneous 8 and is visible to the naked eye. The reverse legend shows the unusual IN DE ET LIB spacing, another distinction among the sometimes mind-numbing Connecticut variety series. The die states are a bit earlier than Perkins:277. A very attractive example of this interesting variety.

24 1787 Connecticut copper. M. 33.8-Z.13. Rarity-5. Draped Bust Left. VF-30. 123.2 grains. Mottled dark brown and tan on the obverse, even light brown on the reverse. A sharp example of this rare variety, though the central obverse at the figure's profile is very bluntly struck and some pre-striking marks in this area are apparent. A heavy old scratch is noted from the rim below R of AUCTORI to the hair, and the initials MC (or DW upside down) appear to have once been present but lightly smoothed from the cheek and the left obverse field, though discernment of this fact took quite a while. The date and all legends are bold, and this coin is still worthy of healthy bid based on its considerable merits.

25 1787 Connecticut copper. M. 33.15-r.1. Rarity-2. Draped Bust left. VF-35 (NGC). Pleasing light brown with some darker toning around design elements. Mostly smooth and very pleasing for the grade, an excellent VF type coin.



26 **1787 Nova Eborac. Breen-986. Figure seated left. EF-45.** 141.1 grains. A very sharp specimen with granular surfaces, probably from ground loss within a very short time from its mintage. Dark olive-brown with microscopic raised corrosion on much of obverse and some of the reverse. Excellent detail, with full definition in the hair. If this had nicer surfaces, it would rank as one of the nicest we have seen, but as it is it remains one of the very sharpest and a potential find for a budget minded collector.



27 **1787 Auctori Plebis token. Breen-1147. AU-55 (NGC).** Glossy dark chocolate brown with a trace of lustre at the peripheries. Some scattered light marks at centers, mostly as struck since the low detail of the issue was not enough to obscure the pre-striking marks on the planchet. Popularly included in American collections for its imitation of a 1787-8 Connecticut copper, and rarely encountered finer.

1794 Copper Company of Upper Canada Token

Very Rare



28 **1794 Copper Company of Upper Canada token. Breen-1077, Breton-721. Proof-63.** 149.5 grains. An extremely elusive and simply beautiful token struck by Boulton and Watt and widely collected for its connection by muling to the equally lovely 1796 Myddelton tokens. Choice light brown with reflective fields showing beautiful toning highlights of pale blue and violet. Marvelously preserved since its time of production, ostensibly sometime after 1794 as a product for the British token collectors of the period, and similar in texture to many of the Conder tokens of the era. Crisp square edges, excellent detail in Ponthon's beautiful river-god design, a choice piece all around. A tiny spot is mentioned between LF of HALF atop the reverse and a still smaller one adjacent to the river-god's forearm, but there are no marks or hairlines to speak of. Off the market in an old collection for decades (the same collection as the 1670 5 sols in this sale), this piece is popularly pursued by collectors in England (for its Boulton and Watt connection), Canada (for obvious reasons), and the United States, as this reverse die was once muled to the obverse of the aforementioned Myddelton tokens. It is this connection that landed the piece in Breen's *Encyclopedia*, there described as "ex. rare." We see these pieces very infrequently and are delighted to offer one of this magnificent quality.



29 **1795 Washington Grate halfpenny. Breen-1271, Baker-29. Large coat buttons. MS-64 BN (NGC).** Medium brown with traces of reddish color among the legends and design elements. Some lustre, good detail despite a bit of the typical central weakness. A desirable example of this popular issue.

Very Sharp 8 Pointed Star Fugio



30 **1787 Fugio cent. N. 15-Y. Rarity-4. 8 Pointed Star. AU-50 (PCGS).** Pleasing dark and medium brown with mostly smooth surfaces. The left periphery of the obverse suffers from some light striking, as do many other Fugios, leaving FU of FUGIO and several of the dentils as obscured or indistinct. Two depressions near the reverse periphery near 7:00 and 10:00 show similar blunt striking. Luckily, the centers—vital on the eight-pointed star variety—are bold, and all eight points of both stars are plain to the naked eye. There is a bit of roughness seen under magnification around the date and in a few other areas, but it is not any sort of distraction. The detail overall is excellent, as is the aesthetic appeal. A popular major variety which is infrequently found much better.

Choice Mint State 1762 Pillar $1



31 **Mexico. 1762 MM 8 reales. Mexico City mint. MS-63 (NGC).** Frosty silver gray with abundant cartwheel lustre. A very attractive piece, nicely struck though still a touch light at central reverse as always seen. Scattered light contact marks and hairlines are visible, but none are individually distracting and the overall aesthetic appeal is very nice. Included as the first coin in the *Guide Book* for a reason, many collectors seek to include a nice Pillar dollar in their collections of early American coins to represent the Spanish-American coins that predominated in commerce in colonial

America and around the world in the 18th century. This piece, struck at Mexico City, would be instantly recognizable to any American colonist—something that cannot be said for a great number of the "colonials" that are actively collected today. A fine specimen for inclusion in your cabinet.



32 **1791 imitation 2 reales. Brass. Kleeberg 91A-M3. EF-40.** 87.6 grains. Plain edge. Legends of Carlos III, portrait of Carlos IV. Mo mintmark, FF assayer (used 1778-1784). A high quality example of this variety and date, a type well known to specialists in this growing field. Dark golden tan with some splashes of darker toning, likely imbued during the aging process at the time of production; Kleeberg notes in his study that most specimens seen are "blotchy" and the present cataloguer agrees with that assessment. While this contemporary circulating imitation was produced to look old (perhaps in the 1810s or 1820s), this piece shows very nice definition, including some details in profile and full legends. The reverse is slightly double struck. As most collectors know, 2 reales of the Spanish dominions were one of the staples of the early Republic's circulating coin supply, a fact that invited their imitation by entrepreneurs. While some types could have been made in Latin America, many were undoubtedly produced in America—occasionally seen overstrikes on U.S. coins speak to this activity. Nearly all varieties are scarce to rare, and usually they are found in either wretched condition or defaced. This variety is one of the less rare ones, but is fascinating to study—the portrait and legends don't match, the date and assayer initials don't agree, and the overall production shows a crude charm like contemporary imitation halfpence. With the renaissance in popularity of imitation halfpence in recent years, some collectors have found the relative backwater of imitation 2 reales, led by John Kleeberg's study "Counterfeit 2 Reales of the Bust Type" as a standard reference. This example will likely bring on the order a few hundred dollars, but its role in the early American economy and its scarcity will perhaps one day make these important coins far more popular than they are currently.

John Kleeberg's study was published in the 1998 ANS COAC on circulating counterfeits. The last major auction offering of counterfeit 2 reales of the Bust type was in the 1987 Taylor sale. How sad it is that two specimens makes this another major offering! A small group of dedicated collectors mostly trades privately, and new varieties are still occasionally being discovered. Kleeberg's work gives an excellent indication of relative rarity of the varieties, with the ANS collection at the core of his work.



33 **1810 imitation 2 reales. Tin or silver washed copper. Kleeberg 10A-P4. F-12.** 106.4 grains. Plain edge. Legends of Ferdinand VII, portrait of Carlos IV. P mintmark, HJ assayer (used 1809-1815 at Mexico City). Smooth medium brown with nearly half the silver or tin wash still remaining on both sides. A very crude production, as are all seen of this very rare variety, with essentially no detail on the portrait bust on even high-grade examples. The date is clear, obverse legends at right somewhat weak, reverse entirely well defined except for the P mintmark. The portrait type and legends do not match, and the mintmark and assayer are likewise mismatched. The ANS specimen is of similar quality, and Kleeberg only noted four seen. Another desirable imitation 2 reales that likely hoodwinked more than one American consumer in the days of the early Republic.

HALF CENTS

Our selection of half cents is a memorable one, and should offer many bidders the chance to add to their sets of types, dates, varieties, or even die states! Two circulated 1793 half cents begin the festivities, within the price range of most, while a choice Mint State 1795 C-1 is a coin for a connoisseur. A goodly selection of Draped Bust half cents include several elusive varieties and die states (by Manley numbers) and a few nicely pedigreed Proofs of the last design type will also be sold to the highest bidder.

All uncertified half cents and large cents are graded in accordance with "EAC" style net grading standards, often more conservative than so-called "market grading."

Collectible 1793 Half Cent



34 **1793 Cohen-1, Breen-1. Rarity-3+. Genuine (NCS) G-6.** Sharpness of VF-20 or so, but rough and showing some old scratches. Manley 2.0 Marked as "Genuine" by NCS but not given any sort of grade. Mottled dark brown and ruddy tan. The surfaces show scattered pits over both sides, giving an overall granular impression but not swallowing any of the detail. Many old pinscratches blend into the patina on both sides, not really become consequential to the visual appeal until examined under magnification. A few digs are noted, including ones at 3:00 and 9:00 inside the obverse rim and just below the fraction on the reverse. Die swelling has obliterated a portion of CENT on the reverse, though the die state is not yet late enough to show the reverse rim break. Though not a perfect example, this coin offers a lot of detail for a budget-minded collector.

Desirable 1793 Half Cent

One Year Type



(2x photo)

35 **1793 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. VF-20.** Sharpness of EF-40, but somewhat rough and granular in areas. Glossy dark brown with highlights of light brown and hints of reddish toning in areas. The reverse is evenly and microscopically granular, while the obverse shows patches of light roughness but maintains good gloss. The overall visual impact is very positive, and the excellent EF-calibre sharpness only helps this piece. A single pit is noted inside the beading at 9:00 and other marks are minor. A good looking 1793 half cent, one that should not be completely overlooked for its surface flaws, but rather considered and bid upon at a level that would represent a good value considering its eye appeal.

Pleasing 1794 Half Cent



36 **1794 C-1a, B-1a. Rarity-3. VF-20.** Sharpness of VF-25, but there is a faint rim bruise just left of L of LIBERTY and a small patch of roughness inside the rim opposite the face. Neither of these flaws significantly alter excellent visual appeal. Pleasing steel brown with smooth surfaces and a hint of bluish undertones, maybe lightly cleaned a century ago but nicely retoned with time and not showing any hairlines or any other metal-moving alterations. Scattered light nicks are commensurate with the level of wear, TY of LIBERTY are a bit weak as struck, excellent detail throughout with a nice bold profile of Liberty and a strong date. A very attractive 1794 half cent. We have always found it mystifying that 1794 half cents are not more popular with type collectors when they clearly represent a distinct design type from the Liberty Caps of 1795-97.

37 **A trio of Liberty Cap half cents:** ☆ 1794 C-2a, B-2b. Rarity-2+. G-6, sharpness of VG-10, several light pinscratches and a rim bruise atop the reverse. Good chocolate brown color ☆ 1795 C-6a, B-6a. Rarity-2. G-4. Even dark brown color, date weak but visible, attractive for the grade ☆ 1797 C-1, B-1. Rarity-2. 1 over 1. G-6. Even dark brown, late die state with heavy obverse swelling. (Total: 3 pieces)

Stunning Mint State 1795 C-1

Lettered Edge



(2x photo)

38 **1795 C-1, B-1. Rarity-2. Lettered edge. MS-64 BN (NGC).** Manley 1.0. A incredible specimen of this important variety, a world-class example by anyone's reckoning. Complete frosty cartwheel lustre graces both sides, each light steel brown with subtle bluish undertones and the warm glow of mint color still visible among the design elements and legends of the reverse. Crisply struck with a full frame of dentils around both sides, excellent detail in the hair strands and profile, a bold and lovely piece. A thin stripe of toning off Liberty's nose and a shallow planchet defect at the E of STATES offer easy identifiers for this superb half cent. Some light contact marks are noted, including a dull abrasion at Liberty's chin and in the field off her lips, a dull nick under Y of LIBERTY, and a tiny as-struck planchet chip directly above the two leaves right of T in CENT.

The color, strike, and eye appeal of this specimen are all worthy of the finest half cent connoisseur, from the serious student of the series to the advanced collector of early Mint products. Far less common in high grades than the plain edge No Pole issues of this date, Breen noted only 10 Uncirculated specimens, of which he had never seen four and admitted two others could be the same coin. The superlative Garrett piece, a stand-out gem, was listed atop his census. This example, with its extraordinary aesthetic appeal and technical quality, undoubtedly has a fine provenance whose identity awaits the dutiful researcher. Considering the difficulty entailed in finding a better specimen in the marketplace, this coin deserves active bidding and a spot in a cabinet full of similarly elusive and high-grade early American issues.

NGC Census (Lettered edge): 1; none finer. Even including plain edge varieties, only two examples of the date have been graded MS-64 by NGC and only one piece has been certified finer.

Beautiful VF 1795 Half Cent

Lettered Edge



39 **1795 C-1, B-1. Rarity-2. Lettered Edge. VF-25.** Ideal milk chocolate brown with a trace of woodgrain toning. A beautiful example for the grade, with smooth surfaces showing very few marks. A tiny dig is noted inside the obverse dentils below 9:00, a tiny speck is noted atop Liberty's head and another is high above LI, and some very minor hairlines are seen under examination. The eye appeal is positively lovely, and the detail is crisp on obverse and reverse. This is the sort of high quality circulated early copper that so many collectors enjoy seeking out and adding to their collections, but there are never quite enough like this to go around.

40 A pleasing pair of Liberty Cap half cents: ☆ 1795 C-1, B-1. Rarity-2. VG-8, slightly sharper but granular. Medium golden brown with a couple tiny rim bruises and good eye appeal for the grade ☆ 1797 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. VG-10. Sharpness of F-15, a few central patches of roughness on obverse and reverse. Nice medium brown, great color and very good eye appeal, a few light scratches, actually very nice for this variety. (Total: 2 pieces)

1795 Punctuated Date Half Cent

Ex. Pittman



(2x photo)

41 **1795 C-2a, B-2a. Rarity-3. Lettered Edge. AU-53 (NGC).** A high quality example of the distinctive "punctuated date" variety. Very pleasing tan smooth surfaces. An area of darker toning identifies this piece below the bust to 5 in the date, some little flecks noted here and there, no major contact marks. A trifle weak at central reverse, as often seen. This interesting variety shows a die gouge between 1 and 7 of the date, leading to its moniker and high demand as a major variety. This piece shows excellent eye appeal and would make a nice addition to a collection focused on value, such as the amazing cabinet formed by John Pittman.

From French's 1960 MANA Sale, October 1960, Lot 1312; David Akers Numismatics' sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection, October 1997, Lot 124.

42 A trio of very attractive Draped Bust half cents grading VF-30 to EF-40: ☆ 1800 C-1, B-1. Rarity-2. Glossy medium brown, very lightly granular under a glass, tiny planchet flaw behind hair ribbon, excellent eye appeal ☆ 1804 C-8, B-7. Rarity-1. Manley 1.0. Medium brown and pleasing, but light hairlines on both sides and a planchet flaw right of TY of LIBERTY ☆ 1806 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1. Glossy chocolate brown with excellent eye appeal, some light roughness inside bottom obverse rim, a planchet lamination runs across truncation of Liberty's bust. A nice trio of coins. (Total: 3 pieces)

43 **A dozen half cents dating from 1800 to 1854.** Early dates average in the VF range, later dates average EF, some have a few light flaws but all are attractive and highly collectible: ☆ 1800 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1 ☆ 1804 C-11, B-12. Rarity-2 ☆ 1804 C-12, B-11. Rarity-2 ☆ 1804 C-13, B-10. Rarity-1 ☆ 1809/6 C-5, B-5. Rarity-1 ☆ 1809 C-6, B-6. Rarity-1 ☆ 1828 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1 ☆ 1828 C-3, B-2. Rarity-1 ☆ 1834 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1. 1835 C-2, B-2. Rarity-1 ☆ 1853 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1 ☆ 1854 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1. A fine collection (Total: 12 pieces)

44 **A pair of key dates in the early half cent series:** ☆ 1802 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. G-5. A clean dark brown example ☆ 1811 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. VG-7, sharpness of F-12, but granular. Medium brown with some rosy highlights near center from a long-ago cleaning. Two acceptable specimens of very challenging dates. (Total: 2 pieces)

45 **Trio of Draped Bust half cents graded EF:** ☆ 1803 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1. EF-45. Attractive medium brown with a trace of lustre ☆ 1804 C-13, B-10. Rarity-1. EF-40, five points sharper but for some faint scratches at left reverse field. Glossy dark brown ☆ 1808 C-3, B-3. Rarity-1. EF-45. Lovely glossy surfaces with a two tone brown and tan reverse. A very nice grouping fit for a finicky collector. (Total: 3 pieces)

46 **A baker's dozen of 1803 and 1804 half cents:** All pieces grade from Good to VF, with most in the VG/F range. While some light circulation problems may be encountered, all retain good eye appeal: ☆ 1803 C-1, B-1 (2) ☆ 1803 C-3, B-3 ☆ 1804 C-1, B-1 (2) ☆ 1804 C-8, B-7 (6) ☆ 1804 C-9, B-8 ☆ 1804 C-10, B-9. (Total: 13 pieces)

47 **A collection of circulated half cents 1803-1856:** A nice selection, with early dates ranging from Good to Fine with most in the VG range, later dates all VF or EF. Some light problems, such as old cleanings or granular surfaces, may be noted, but most are nice circulated coins: ☆ 1803 C-1, B-1 (5) ☆ 1803 C-3, B-3 ☆ 1804 C-8, B-7 (2) ☆ 1805 C-4, B-4 ☆ 1807 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1809 C-3, B-4 ☆ 1809 C-4, B-1 ☆ 1810 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1832 C-2, B-2 ☆ 1851 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1856 C-1, B-1 (2). (Total: 17 pieces)

48 A quartette of better variety half cents, 1803-1809, all graded VG to Fine. Some light problems may be seen, but all are pleasing and collectible for the grade: ☆ 1803 C-2, B-2. Rarity-4 ☆ 1803 C-4, B-4. Rarity-4 ☆ 1804 C-1, B-1. Rarity-3. ☆ 1809 C-2, B-3. Rarity-3. (Total: 4 pieces)



49 **1804 C-4, B-2. Rarity-5. AG-3.** Manley 1.0. Sharpness of VG-10 or nearly so, but with scattered pits on the obverse and rather rough on the reverse. A collectible example of this rare and elusive variety. The obverse is moderately rough with patches of low-lying granularity, but the "Low 4" date is clear and all major elements are present. The reverse was once well corroded but now shows some scratches from corrosion removal and is rather rough. The legends, denomination, and fraction are all clear. Most specimens of this variety are hardly beauty prize winners, and any example better than VG can be called very rare. This piece will fill a gap in a specialized collection with an easily attributable and rather sharp specimen.



50 **1804 C-5, B-4. Rarity-4. VF-30.** Manley 5.0. Sharpness of VF-35, but a few light hairlines on Liberty's neck and some reverse verdigris around letters are noted. An appealing example of the most elusive Spiked Chin variety. Nice glossy chocolate brown with smooth surfaces. Scattered tiny contact marks here or there, dull nick at 4 of date, minor rim bruise at 10:00 on obverse, no major problems that substantially alter very nice eye appeal. The Condition Census of this variety descends into EF territory, and specimens in this grade are avidly snapped up by variety collectors.

51 **A quintette of better early half cents, including the 1805 Small 5 and the 1811:** ☆ 1804 C-5, B-4. Rarity-4. VG-10, sharpness of VF-35, cleaned ☆ 1805 C-3, B-3. Rarity-4. Fair-2 with a complete date ☆ 1806 C-2, B-1. Rarity-4. F-12, sharpness of VF-20, cleaned and showing some light hairlines ☆ 1808/7 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. VG-8, sharpness of F-12+, hairlined ☆ 1811 C-1, B-1. Rarity-4. G-5, sharpness of VG-10, microscopically granular. (Total: 5 pieces)

1804 C-6 Die State Collection

52 **A die state collection of 1804 C-6, B-6 including over a dozen coins.** Grades are mostly VG or Fine, with 1 in lower grade and several finer. States included are: Manley 1.0, Manley 2.0 "rare", Manley 2.5 "very scarce" (3), Manley 4.5 "rare", Manley 7.0 "rare" (2), Manley 8.0 "very scarce", Manley 9.0 "very scarce" (2), Manley 9.5 "very scarce," Manley 10.2 "rare", Manley 11.0 (3). This collection shows the death of the reverse die from unbroken to nearly gone and surrounded by cuds. Long a favorite variety of half cent specialists, 1804 C-6 is one of the most popular varieties in all of American numismatics to chase by die state. Here is a well-formed collection that is ready for additions or potential upgrades. (Total: 16 pieces)

53 **1804 C-7, B-5. Rarity-4. VF-20.** Manley 2.0, a very rare die state with a total population of just a dozen pieces according to Manley. Sharpness of VF-25, but many very tiny contact marks reduce the grade ever-so-slightly. Nice medium brown with glossy surfaces and just a trace of verdigris at central reverse. A nice-looking coin and one whose grade allows for easy location of the faint crack from F of OF on the reverse. Worthy of strong consideration from die state enthusiasts.

54 1804 C-8, B-7. Rarity-1. VG-10. Manley 5.0, a "very rare" die state according to Manley. Attractive medium brown with only scattered contact marks commensurate with the grade and no serious deductions. Significantly finer than the Manley plate coin and allowing for easy identification of the retained cud above LI of LIBERTY. An important piece for half cent specialists.

55 **A substantial start to a date set of half cents, 1804-1850:** Grades average Fine for the early dates and VF/EF for later dates, most with good eye appeal: ☆ 1804 C-9, B-8 ☆ 1805 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1805 C-4, B-4 ☆ 1806 C-4, B-4 ☆ 1808 C-3, B-3 ☆ 1825 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1825 C-2, B-2 ☆ 1826 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1828 C-2, B-3 ☆ 1829 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1833 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1832 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1835 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1849 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1850 C-1, B-1. (Total: 15 pieces)



56 **1804 C-12, B-11. Rarity-2. MS-62 BN (NGC).** Highly glossy medium brown with some faint iridescent undertones. Sharp and attractive, magnified scrutiny discerns a faint scratch at top of wreath and a few vertical ones on Liberty's cheek. Good overall eye appeal and well worthy of a spot in a type or major variety collection.

57 **Quartette of half cents:** ☆ 1806 C-1, B-3. Rarity-1. Small 6, Stemless. VF-30 ☆ 1828 C-3, B-2. Rarity-1. 13 Stars. Manley-4.0 . EF-40, sharpness of AU-55, obverse hairlines ☆ 1853 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1. MS-60 ☆ 1854 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1. AU-50. (Total: 4 pieces)



58 **1808/7 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. VF-25 (NGC).** Pleasing medium to dark brown with some natural ruddy undertones. An attractive coin for the grade with scattered marks and abrasions commensurate with the level of wear. The overdate characteristic is clear and other details are nicely defined. A challenging major variety and the only collectible overdate die pair.

59 A pair of popular half cent issues, the 1808/7 and the 1811: ☆ 1808/7 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. VG-10, sharpness of F-12, some light reverse roughness. Medium olive-brown with some surface dirt and good eye appeal, a coin that would probably be helped by some gentle dirt removal ☆ 1811 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. VG-7. Even chocolate brown with some light reverse deposits. Two nice circulated issues known for their scarcity. (Total: 2 pieces)

Very Rare 1811 Half Cent Restrike



(2x photo)

60 **1811 Restrike. Proof-64 BN (NGC).** Lustrous golden brown with some faint undertones of faded mint color. Typical surface quality for an 1811 restrike half cent, with areas of smooth lustre being interrupted by die rust from mishandled U.S. Mint dies that were used to produce this piece—hardly typical for a coin termed Proof! The eye appeal is nice, and the only notable flaw is a short scratch from the rim across the lower two points of star 2. The total population of 1811 half cent restrikes is only about 10, all struck circa 1859 from discarded but genuine U.S. Mint dies then in the collection of famed Philadelphian Joseph J. Mickley. The obverse die is one actually used in 1811, while the reverse is one used in 1802. Then (as now) top grade specimens of 1811 half cents were very rare, so Mickley produced these concoctions to assist his fellow collectors in achieving a complete collection in top grade. Most advanced half cent collectors have tried to include one in their collection ever since, gaining 1811 half cent restrikes a status similar to 1804 large cent restrikes—except that an actual 1811 obverse was used (not one from a different year whose date had been altered) and that the 1811 restrike is far rarer! With pieces showing some original color trading for well over $20,000, we imagine this attractive piece will see active bidding and find a happy home with an advanced half cent enthusiast.

NGC Census: 4–2 finer (Proof-66 RB finest)



61 **1826 C-2, B-2. Rarity-3. EF-40.** Manley 1.0 with bold remnants of recutting on the 6 still apparent. Choice glossy medium brown with excellent eye appeal. A beautiful specimen for the grade with only a tiny patch of verdigris above the second T of STATES to note. A very challenging date to find finer.

Ex. Carvin Goodridge Collection.

62 **A selection of half cents graded EF and AU.** All have nice eye appeal: ☆ 1832 C-3, B-3. An especially choice piece ☆ 1833 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1835 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1850 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1855 C-1, B-1 ☆ 1857 C-1, B-1. (Total: 6 pieces)

63 A trio of Hard Times token issues relevant to half cent collectors. All grade about EF-40: ☆ 1837 half cent token (2). A popular type included in many half cent collections ☆ 1837 Feuchtwanger cent. The first small size cent token to gain wide circulation. (Total: 3 pieces)

The Byron Reed 1843 Proof Half Cent

First Restrike, Rarity-6



(2x photo)

64 **1843 B-2. Rarity-6. First restrike. Proof-65 BN (PCGS).** An exquisite specimen of this rare issue, one that boasts an enviable provenance. Reflective medium brown surfaces retain abundant bright mint color inside the obverse dentils and around central obverse device, while the reverse is more evenly brown and shows violet and mint orange highlights. Very crisply struck, excellent surface quality with none of the hairlining so often found on these Proof half cent issues, some light scattered flyspecks as expected. Listed first in the Coleman census of only 16 specimens identified after long and careful research, called "a gem" in his September 2003 *Penny-Wise* study, which also noted this piece was once certified as Proof-65 RB by NGC. A single spot on Liberty's neck is noted just left of the hair curl, some light scattered mint-made planchet chips including one on Liberty's nostril. A very pretty coin that resided in Nebraska for at least a century, from Byron Reed's death in 1891 until the epochal sale of his collection in 1996. This issue is far more elusive than other dates in the series,

making every auction appearance an opportunity worthy of very strong consideration.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-66 BN finest). A single Proof-65 RB has been certified, none finer.

From Spink America's sale of the Byron Reed Collection, October 1996, Lot 7; Stack's sale of October 199, Lot 29.

Very Rare 1846 Proof Half Cent

Jackson (1913)—Eliasberg (1996)



(2x photo)

65 **1846 Breen-3. Rarity-6. Second Restrike. Proof-64 RB (PCGS).** 77.5 grains. A high quality and nicely pedigreed specimen of this rare Second Restrike variety. Lively and reflective surfaces are mostly pleasing light brown, with notable highlights of pale green, gold, and rose faded from original mint color. Beautiful eye appeal with excellent surface quality and a good strike, just a trifle weak over the ear. A spot outside star 2 identifies this piece and enable its significant pedigree to be easily tracked. We also note a curved lint mark over star 3 and some inborn planchet finishing lines running parallel on the obverse. Richard Coleman has identified 18 specimens of this rare issue, and this coin is number 7 on his list. A charming specimen worthy of putting away in a well-formed collection.

PCGS Population: 5; none finer within the designation.

From United States Coin Company's sale of the Malcolm N. Jackson Collection, May 1913, Lot 1434; Thomas Elder to John H. Clapp to the Clapp Estate to Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. in 1942; Bowers and Merena's sale of the Eliasberg Collection, May 1996, Lot 465; Superior's sale of September 1997, Lot 24; Bowers and Merena's sale of September 1998, Lot 102.

Elusive Proof 1852 Half Cent

First Restrike



(2x photo)

66 **1852 Breen-2. Rarity-5. First Restrike. Proof-65 RB (NGC).** Lightly reflective surfaces show an autumnal blend of orange, pale green, and rose toning with sharp details throughout. A lint mark above F of HALF serves as an identifier, spots inside star 10 and left of N of CENT are noted, some other scattered flyspecks and a few light hairlines. A nice looking specimen of this rare issue.



67 **1855 C-1, B-1. Rarity-1. MS-64 RD (NGC).** Lustrous and lively orange-red surfaces show significant frost. Scattered spotting and flyspecking may be seen on the obverse, typical of hoard specimens of this date, but the reverse is relatively free of these toning spots. A worthy coin for a Mint State type set.

LARGE CENTS

Hot on the heels of our world record-breaking sale of the 1793 Strawberry Leaf cent (sold for $414,000, the most money ever paid for an American cent at auction), we again offer important coppers from this inaugural year of regular issue American coinage. A very sharp Chain AMERI hits leadoff, a desirable example of this type whose fame and popularity has been secure since before the American Civil War. Were Ed Cogan, or Joseph Mickley, or F.W. Doughty to pull up their buggy in front of our Wolfeboro offices, upon seeing this coin we're quite sure they'd show an expression of delight. Of course, were we to show them the gem Mint State 1793 Sheldon-2 instead, we're sure they'd try to *buy* it! One of the very finest Chain cents of any variety in existence, we are pleased to showcase this storied cent, with a long historical description that incorporates little known facts about two of its earliest owners. A long provenance likewise comes with the Mint State 1794 S-28 offered below, and a stunning brockage 1811 cent traces its lineage to the collection of our late friend Richard Picker. Other later pieces are also included, many in high grade, all nice additions to a well-developed collection.

All uncertified half cents and large cents are graded in accordance with "EAC" style net grading standards, often more conservative than so-called "market grading."

Classic 1793 Chain AMERI



(2x photo)

68 **1793 Sheldon-1. Rarity-4. Chain AMERI. VF-30 (ANACS).** A sharp and attractive specimen of this most popular large cent issue, the beginning of our most consistently struck and most basic denomination. Pleasing medium brown with a strong measure of gloss despite granular surfaces. All details are extremely bold, perhaps even a bit stronger than the certified grade would indicate, with nice hair detail and a bold reverse. A few little digs and abrasions are noted from normal circulation. The surfaces are not perfect, with faint pitting over most of the coin, but the overall aesthetic appeal is more than acceptable, particularly for an issue as popular and elusive as this. A sharp Chain AMERI ranks high on the list of "most-wanted" coins, and this example will fit most cabinets very nicely.

Stellar Mint State 1793 Chain AMERICA Cent

MS-65 BN (PCGS)

Among the Finest Known

Pedigreed to 1891









69 **1793 S-2. Rarity-4. Chain AMERICA. MS-65 BN (PCGS).** One of the very finest Chain cents in existence, arguably tied for finest known of the variety and no worse than second finest known. Full cartwheel lustre spins across frosty and marvelously preserved surfaces. The color is a frosty steel medium brown, with golden highlights faded from mint color and some rosy hues in the protected areas of the hair which were last to mellow. The surfaces are unworn and show remarkable bloom; we concur with the designation of this coin as fully Mint State despite our attachment to the conservative "EAC" style grading system used for large cents. A raised rim encircles the entire obverse and most of the reverse, but for the lowest portion. The strike is bold enough to allow for a strong and expressive portrait of Liberty with only the most minor flatness in the hair strands closest to the ear. Some tiny scattered marks in the left obverse field appear to have pre-existed striking, and a dig at the end of a middle hair strand serves as an identifier. The reverse shows a few very tiny pre-striking contact points, but none are notable. The numeral 3 is clearly recut at the bottom of the lower curve, a fact about the S-1/S-2 obverse we have never noted or seen described but is seemingly worthy of further inquiry; examination of other Mint State S-1 and S-2 cents, such as the Koshkarian AMERI shows no evidence of this characteristic, which may suggest how bold the strike on this coin is or that there was a light retouching of the die.

Mint State Chain cents are the sort of things that most collectors can only dream of owning and only hope to even see at some point in their collecting lives. Since ANR's founding in July 2003, we have been fortunate enough to handle several pieces certified as Mint State and a few that even the most conservative "EAC" style grader would call fully Mint State. Two others were certified as MS-65 BN. The Jung Sheldon-4, the only other PCGS graded coin, realized a world record $391,500. Sheldon-2 is actually even rarer than Sheldon-4, both as a variety in all grades (R-4 vs. R-3+) and in Mint State. Comparing the two in terms of their condition is difficult, as that coin had more color but this coin lacks the Jung specimen's reverse spot. Calling them comparable seems fair, and we can imagine right-minded people asked to choose between them picking either one.

Few type coins in Mint State are as challenging as the Chain cents of 1793. Small Eagle half dollars are a bit rarer in full Mint State, as the record $966,000 achieved for the Koshkarian 1797 half dollar would suggest. 1793 half cents or 1793 Wreath cents are perhaps similarly rare but each has a higher population of coins in full Mint State still extant; when the coins are this rare, the differ-

ence between eight total coins and 12 total coins is significant and represents a difference of 50%. There are fewer than a dozen Chain cents that are generally accorded Mint State status by conservative standards, and a slightly higher number based on grading service grading standards and populations. Both conservative graders and grading services agree that this piece ranks as one of the finest Chain cents in existence, as will anyone who views this coin in person. Its fine pedigree includes two of the most famously finicky cent collectors of a past generation—Washington D.C. perfectionist Benjamin Collins (of whom there is more below) and the famed Dr. Henry W. Beckwith. These two collectors, intent on acquiring the finest specimens possible in an age where there was far less competition for gems, should not overshadow later luminaries who owned this coin such as French, Mehl, Sheldon, Naftzger, and Halpern, but their connoisseurship was far ahead of their time. A connoisseur in their mold should own this coin next and enjoy its incredible state of preservation.

PCGS Population (AMERICA variety): 1; 1 finer (MS-67 BN). There has been one Periods (S-4) graded MS-65 BN, the Jung coin which we sold for a record $391,500 in July 2004. There is also a single AMERI (S-1) at MS-65 BN. In sum, PCGS has graded only four Chain cents of all varieties at MS-65 or finer. The MS-67 BN is said to be a Sheldon-4, a Periods coin on the wrong place on the PCGS Population Report, which is known as "The Coin," a prooflike gem that is by general acclamation the finest Chain cent in existence.

Despite being a relative obscure name to most modern numismatists, two excellent studies focus on the first American owner of this coin, the Washington D.C. collector and dealer Benjamin H. Collins. One, by Jess Patrick in the October 1980 issue of *The Numismatist* focuses in large part on this coin and the other, by scholar and friend John W. Adams, appeared in the first ever COAC volume published by the ANS. Collins was a Civil War veteran who served with the Union under Gen. Philip Sheridan, a native Missourian under the employ of the federal government after the war who died in Washington in 1928. In his twilight years, in 1924, he noted in *The Numismatist* how he went about his collecting of large cents. He described how he obtained "the best possible specimens, retaining them in my cabinet in the face of most tempting offers and only dispensing of one when a more perfect or desirable cent took its place ... perfect condition should be our aim." A perfect cent, to the finicky Mr. Collins, would show no evidence of "vandalism, nicks, oiling, tooling, holes, cleaning, cabinet friction and certain absence in toto of corrosion" and he would scoff at modern premiums on RD coins, saying "any fixed color, light olive preferred, though black or dark very acceptable. Red secondary which, though beautiful, will not stay put." A realist and a perfectionist are rarely the same person, but Collins was both. His realism is what may have allowed him to finally sell, after much apparent browbeating, this coin and four others which Dr. Henry Beckwith so desperately wanted for his high condition set of cents. Breen called Beckwith "the first perfectionist," though he may have been the second. Jess Patrick kindly shared the unpublished 1919-dated receipt Collins gave Beckwith in his 1980 article. In that manuscript, Collins described the present coin as follows: "1793 Chain America Cent, original condition, unworn, sharp, evenly centered, obverse and reverse, with much original brilliant red color [remember what Collins said about it not staying put?], no spots or nicks, undoubtedly the finest known of this variety $500." That accompanied the receipt letter gives a hint to how attached Collins had become to this Chain cent and the four other gems sold that day:

"The five high prices ones—begged for by you and which you appreciate so highly (and very justly so), I doubt if they can be matched in any other known collection (as a quintet under one ownership) and will greatly enhance the beauty and evenness of your incomparable set of dates. They formed a part of the wonderful collection of cents I purchased in 1891 from W.S. Lincoln & Son, the leading coin dealer in London, England, and were in my personal set with no desire on my part to sell until you so persistently and patiently acquired them for your own."

Beckwith paid handsomely for the chance to lure this coin away from Collins, and it sold for $70 less than he had paid at the 1923 sale of his collection. As John Adams noted, "Suffice it to observe that almost every cent collector has his price, but there are relatively few buyers with the reckless abandon to pay it."

Purchased by Benjamin H. Collins in August 1891 from "tray after tray of gem coppers" at the London shop of W.S. Lincoln & Son; Collins to Dr. Henry W. Beckwith on January 30, 1919; S.H. Chapman's sale of the Beckwith Collection, April, 1923, Lot 1; purchased by Henry Chapman for $430 and sold to Dr. George P. French; B. Max Mehl's 1929 fixed price list of the Dr. George P. French Collection, Lot 1 (@$850); J.C. Morganthau and Co.'s sale of the Dr. Henry A. Sternberg Collection, April 1933, Lot 2; B. Max Mehl's personal collection to T. James Clarke to John H. Payne to Dr. William H. Sheldon in 1953; sold with the intact Sheldon Collection to R.E. "Ted" Naftzger" Jr. on April 19, 1972; part of the "Great Pool Table Swap of Ho-Ho-Kus" to Herman Halpern on December 11, 1986; Stack's sale of the Herman Halpern Collection, March 1988, Lot 2; Anthony Terranova to Andrew Lustig to Don Kagin to Gilbert Steinberg on November 16, 1992; Superior's sale of the Gilbert Steinberg Collection, September 1996, Lot 1560; Anthony Terranova and Chris Victor-McCawley to Walter Husak; private owner and dealer intermediary; Superior's sale of February 2001, Lot 2090 (not sold but featured as the lone cover coin); dealer intermediaries; our consignor.

Pleasing 1793 Chain Cent

Sheldon-2



(2x photo)

70 **1793 S-2. Rarity-4. Chain AMERICA. F-12 (PCGS).** We can't all own Mint State specimens of Sheldon-2, but most of us wouldn't mind having a nice Fine. Even dusky light brown, the reverse a bit darker with nicely contrasting light color on the chain and lettering. Finely granular under magnification but very even in appearance to the naked eye. The chain, portrait, and all lettering are very bold, and the date is nice and plain though a shade weaker, as typical. A pit in the lower right obverse field is noted but no other nicks or marks are significant. A nice circulated specimen of this most rare collectible Chain.

Collectible 1793 Wreath Cent



71 **1793 Wreath. S-6. Rarity-3. VG-7.** Sharpness of close to VF-20, but dark and granular. Even dark olive with some lighter highlights on Liberty's hair and portions of the wreath. Scattered roughness and granularity on both sides, but all major design elements remain clear, including date and fraction. No major marks or damage. A desirable example with some minor surface problems.

Classic 1793 Wreath Cent



72 **1793 S-8. Rarity-3. VG-7.** Sharpness of F-12 or better, but exhibiting scattered tiny nicks. Even chocolate brown, an attractive shade, with some light woodgrain toning on the reverse. The planchet is mostly smooth, but the obverse shows an overabundance of tiny contact marks and abrasions. There is a rim nick at 10:00 on the obverse, a single pit left of L of LIBERTY, and a few minor reverse rim nicks that are relatively inconsequential. ONE CENT is a bit weak but visible, and other design elements are plain, including a good strong date. A coin to consider if assembling a type set or large cent date set without a substantial fortune.

73 **Trio of cents by type:** ☆ 1794 S-22. Rarity-1. VG-8, sharpness of F-15, but rough surfaces ☆ 1802 S-232. Rarity-1. VF-20. A pleasing coin ☆ 1812 S-290. Rarity-1. F-12. Nice for the grade. (Total: 3 pieces)

Condition Census 1794 S-28
MS-63 BN (PCGS)
Historic Pedigree



(2x photo)

74 **1794 S-28. Rarity-2. MS-63 BN (PCGS).** An historic specimen of this beautiful variety, the one Maris called "The Ornate" in 1869. Lustrous and frosty light brown with some deeper toning atop head and cap, at right obverse, and in the northeast quadrant of the reverse. Nicely struck, though some pre-striking planchet nicks are still visible in areas and OF is a trifle weak. The pre-striking nicks are most visible in the right obverse field and beneath the tip of the bust, as struck. The eye appeal is exemplary, with lovely color and excellent surfaces. Only a tiny reeding nick on Liberty's cheek merits mention. Tied for fifth finest known for the variety, the best of which is the choice Mint State United States Hotel specimen from the Jackson Collection that is the absolute pride and joy of its current owner. Breen state VI. A simply extraordinary 1794 cent, one which benefits from a beautifully rendered die and an extensive pedigree, the sort of coin that only finds its way into advanced cabinets.

PCGS Population (Head of 1794): 7; 10 finer (MS-66 BN finest). This population omits the MS-67 RB Jung S-24, which we sold in July 2004 for $126,500, as that piece is inexplicably listed on the pop report as Head of 1795.

From 1913 to 1972, this coin was only ever auctioned in the month of November. Ever since, it has only ever been sold in January. How bizarre! Perhaps our consignor saw this as a sign of good luck before consigning it to the present sale.

From S.H. Chapman's sale of the John Lyman Collection, November 1913, Lot 401; Henry C. Hines to William Sheldon in 1944; Numismatic Gallery's sale of the Charles M. Williams Collection, November 1950, Lot 29; New Netherlands' sale of the R.E. "Ted" Naftzger Collection, November 1973, Lot 351; RARCOA to Dennis Forgue to Thomas Werner, Stack's sale of January 1987, Lot 837; Anthony Terranova; Superior Galleries' sale of January 1989, Lot 3093; Larry Briggs.



75 **1794 S-31. Rarity-2. F-15.** Sharpness of VF-30, but cleaned and retoning naturally. Smooth and very appealing, with delightful light tan color, though some old artificial orange still clings to the outline of Liberty and her cap as well as some protected areas of the reverse. Really a very nice coin, one that will look superb once the retoning completes, as the sharpness and surface quality is excellent. A tiny rim nick is noted over I of UNITED, pit at first A of AMERICA, no other notable problems. A desirable example that will repay patience with excellent color.

76 1795 S-76b. Rarity-1. Plain Edge. VF-20. Sharpness of EF-40, but showing some surface corrosion and recolored. Mottled maroon, tan, and dark olive patina on finely granular surfaces. Glossy and retaining a measure of eye appeal, with very nice detail on both obverse and reverse. Some deposits of corrosion are noted in the lower left obverse field, a few horizontal scrapes are present across Liberty's face, and a faint scratch blends in left of OF on the reverse. Not as bad as we perhaps make it sound, as there is a good bit to like about a Liberty Cap cent as sharp as this one.

Exceptional 1811 Cent Brockage

A Stunning Error



(2x photo)

77 **1811 S-287. Rarity-2. Full obverse brockage, 5% off center. AU-55 (NGC).** One of the most eye-catching large cent errors we have ever seen, a piece that traces its pedigree to the famed brockage collection of dealer and researcher Richard Picker. Glossy medium brown with ideal smooth surfaces. Brockage side boldly impressed and trivially misaligned to 3:00, normal obverse boldly off-center to 9:00 with a high cupped rim from 12:00 to 5:30. The brockage is deep and crisp and is a wonder to behold. While some dates are more common than others for brockages (1817 reverses come to mind), brockages of this design type are elusive and, when found, are nearly always well worn. This may stand as the most impressive brockage error on a Classic Head large cent, and belongs in a definitive collection of large cents or mint errors.

From Coin Galleries' sale of the Richard Picker Collection of brockages, May 1989, Lot 1065; Jerry A. Bobbe; McCawley-Grellman's sale of the Mick Arconti Collection, July 2003, Lot 70.

High-Grade 1814 Cent

Crosslet 4



78 **1814 S-294. Rarity-1. AU-58 (PCGS).** Glossy dark brown toning with underlying coppery tones framing the peripheries. Sharp and attractive with lively surfaces and some lustre. A nick on Liberty's cheek is noted and a tiny as-struck depression is present beneath the tip of her hair ribbon. Difficult to find as a type with top-notch surfaces and good eye appeal, and worthy of strong support.

Lustrous 1814 Cent

Plain 4



79 **1814 S-295. Rarity-1. MS-61 BN (NGC).** Lustrous and very attractive light brown with traces of frosty gold. A very nice quality piece with abundant cartwheel. Only some light hairlines and a diagonal nick at central reverse preclude a higher Mint State grade. Late die state with "beard" on Liberty's chin and the arc break from star 11 to the date. An excellent type coin or specimen of this final date before the break of 1815.

80 **A pair of Mint State cents from the Randall Hoard:** ☆ 1817 Newcomb-14. Rarity-1. MS-60. Lustrous light brown with a trace of red and some minor spotting ☆ 1818 N-10. Rarity-1. MS-60. Glossy dark brown with a short scratch outside star 3. (Total: 2 pieces)



81 **1819/8 N-1. Rarity-1. AU-55.** A lovely example of a very popular overdate variety. Frosty medium brown surfaces retain a significant portion of lustre and tend towards tan at top of obverse and bottom half of reverse. There is a tiny dull nick on Liberty's cheek, another in the lower left obverse field, and a light planchet flaw at E of UNITED, but this coin still looks remarkably choice. Rim crumbling above stars 7 through 11. A large cent that would readily be called Mint State by most in the marketplace and would be a point of pride for any owner.



82 **1820 N-13. Rarity-1. MS-65 BN (PCGS).** Bold cartwheel lustre on glossy and attractive medium brown surfaces, rich mint color persists around all design elements, particularly vivid on the reverse. Very lively for a "brown" coin, with all the lustre expected of this Randall Hoard variety and excellent color as well. Only a couple tiny spots are noted, one under the lowest hair curl, and the excellent aesthetic appeal would make this ideal for any well-formed type collection.

83 **1820 N-13. Rarity-1. MS-64 RB (PCGS).** Abundant orange-shaded mint color with irregularly mellowed areas tending to deep maroon but not quite "brown." Boldly lustrous, very frosty, and attractive. A dull nick is noted on Liberty's cheek.



84 **1826 N-5. Rarity-2+. MS-62 BN (NGC).** Strong lustre persists on highly attractive frosty light brown surfaces. A splash of darker toning is present over STATES, some scattered light marks, slide marks noted on cheek, generous overall aesthetic appeal. A far nicer coin that most we see at this grade level.



85 **1826 N-6. Rarity-2. MS-63 BN (NGC).** Lustrous dark chocolate brown with olive highlights on the especially lustrous reverse. Good eye appeal, though magnified scrutiny shows some light deposits of inactive verdigris on the obverse. Only light scattered marks are present. An appealing specimen of a date that is more elusive in nice shape than many others of this design type.

Bold Mint State 1836 N-3



86 **1836 N-3. Rarity-1. MS-66 BN (NGC).** Exceptional medium brown with excellent lustre and some lighter color barely mellowed from mint red around the obverse periphery. Excellent eye appeal, bold and frosty, with only an old spot left of C in CENT and a few obverse flecks to note. A highly attractive example of the date.

87 **Trio of large cents: ☆ 1836 N-7. Rarity-4. EF-40.** Pleasing smooth tan with excellent eye appeal. The scarcest die variety of the year in far above average quality ☆ 1839 N-6. Rarity-2. AU-50+. Lustrous surfaces with a trace of red ☆ 1853 N-20. Rarity-3. AU-50. Glossy light brown. (Total: 3 pieces)



88 **1838 N-5. Rarity-1. MS-65 BN (NGC).** Rich chocolate brown, a particularly choice shade, with abundant mint color clinging to all obverse devices as well as the central reverse. Excellent lustre and eye appeal, a bit weakly impressed at the peripheries like most of this variety. A linear mint-made struck-through is noted beneath the lowest hair curl right of the date. A very pretty cent in nice grade.



89 **1846 N-6. Rarity-1. Small Date. MS-66 BN (NGC).** Frosty olive-brown with attractive bluish highlights and much mint red adhering to obverse devices. Excellent lustre and aesthetic appeal. Recutting at base of 6 is bold, no significant marks, a minor old spot blends in left of O of ONE on reverse. An excellent choice for a high-grade date or type set.

90 1847 N-38. Rarity-1. MS-65 BN (NGC). Highly lustrous chocolate brown with lots of bright mint color around reverse peripheries and some red around reverse design elements. Aside from a minor nick left of star 8, we note no significant contact marks. A pretty specimen with excellent color.

91 **1851 N-13. Rarity-1. MS-65 BN (NGC).** Excellent lustre on choice chocolate brown surfaces, enlivened by red on most obverse devices and some of the reverse lettering. A minor dig under star 7 is noted, but this piece is of very nice quality for the assigned certified grade.



92 **1851 N-39. Rarity-3. MS-66 RB (NGC).** Remarkably bold lustre encircles both obverse and reverse over deep violet-brown surfaces. The left half of the reverse shows an impressive amount of bright mint color with traces around other reverse design elements, and most stars and the date are likewise surrounded by rich mint color. The surfaces are immaculate. A superb example in all respects.



93 **1854 N-8. Rarity-1. MS-65 RB (PCGS).** Mint color dominates, faded in areas to pleasing medium brown with violet overtones apparent, with abundant cartwheel lustre on both sides. A frosty gem specimen, free of spotting and a delight to behold. A dull keg mark in front of Liberty's nose blends into the field and no other marks are notable. Grellman state b. A very pretty red and brown specimen of the date.

SMALL CENTS

Our selection of small cents takes flight with a gem Uncirculated 1857 Flying Eagle cent, quickly followed by Proofs of several early dates in the Indian cent series, including a choice Proof-63 RB example of the 1864-L cent, one of the classic rarities among small cent issues of any era. Virtually every other date in the Indian cent series is represented, most in gem Mint State and Proof. Of course, no ANR sale would be complete without a selection of gem and choice Mint State 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln cents, and we have other classic issues from the Lincoln cent series to whet your appetite, including several nice mintmarked beauties from the 'teens and '20s, and including a choice Uncirculated 1955 Doubled Die Obverse cent to round out the offering. Though small in content, we think you'll agree that our small cent offering is high in quality!

Gem 1857 Flying Eagle Cent



94 **1857 Flying Eagle. MS-65 (PCGS).** Certified as a gem by PCGS, this specimen is deeply lustrous overlaid with light brown toning. A few flecks are seen here and there. The first year of one of the shortest lived types in the American series.

PCGS Population: 163; 13 finer (MS-66 finest).

Authorized by the Act of February 21, 1857, the Flying Eagle cent, in the new copper-nickel alloy, weighing 88 grains, and of small diameter, was produced in quantity in the ensuing months. On May 25th, the pieces were first distributed to the public, including in the yard of the Philadelphia Mint, where two booths were set up—one to pay out the new cents in exchange for Spanish-American coins, and the other to exchange the new copper-nickel pieces for old copper cents and half cents.

Before long such pieces were plentiful in circulation. Production of the type continued through the next year. However, difficulties arose with having the designs struck up properly. The heavy "agricultural wreath" on the reverse, adapted by James Longacre from his own $3 of 1854, required great metal flow in the die to bring up the design properly. On the obverse the tail and head of the eagle were opposite in the coining press from the wreath, with the result that the metal sometimes could not flow effectively in both directions, and one or another area was weak. The problem was solved in 1859 with the introduction of the Indian Head cent with laurel wreath reverse, also a short-lived type.

95 **Extensive collection of small cents from an old collection,** housed in a National Coin Album with seven pages. Dates range from 1857 through 1957, with the following issues missing: ☆ 1860 ☆ 1872 ☆ 1873 ☆ 1877 ☆ 1879 ☆ 1883 ☆ 1905 ☆ 1909-S Indian ☆ 1909-S V.D.B. ☆ 1912 ☆ 1913-S ☆ 1915 ☆ 1917-D ☆ 1922 ☆ 1922-D ☆ 1923-S ☆ 1924 ☆ 1925 ☆ 1926 ☆ 1927. While this lot should be inspected by prospective bidders, we present here some general guidelines as to grade. Flying Eagle and Indian cents from 1857 through 1880 are mostly average circulated Good to VG, with a few finer, and a few with surface problems. After 1881, the grades are mostly VF and better with several Uncirculated pieces and an 1887 in Proof. The Lincoln cents up to 1928-S are generally VF and finer, with several Uncirculated pieces, and a few with surface problems. The 1914-D is probably the most significant date included and it is an essentially problem-free Fine. From 1929 onward the set is essentially Mint State with nearly all being Red or Red Brown. The set was likely assembled in the 1950s and 1960s and it offers many nice pieces and as much room for improvement. A great starter set in a National Coin album that is nicely preserved. (Total: 176 pieces)



96 **1858 Flying Eagle. Small Letters. MS-64 (PCGS).** Warm medium gold toning. Needle-sharp strike in all areas, which is not usually the case. A pleasing example of this curious variety, as this font of punched letters was not used elsewhere in circulating coinage.

Gem Proof 1859 Cent

Only Year of Type
Superb Eye Appeal



(2x photo)

97 **1859 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC).** A superb specimen, not only from the certification data, but far more important, for its *superb eye appeal.* The vast majority of Proofs of this date, no matter what number is assigned to them, are dull or otherwise have problems of one sort or another. The present piece handily outclasses the competition and is exceptional in this regard. There are a couple spots on the obverse, one at the top of the ribbon and one at the rim on the right, and a few flecks on the reverse, no doubt taken into consideration by the grading service.

NGC Census: 2; 4 finer within the designation (Proof-67 Cameo finest).

The 1859 Indian cent with laurel wreath reverse stands as one of relatively few United States coin designs used only in a single year. The number of Proofs minted is not known, but probably was not many more than 1,000. Why the laurel wreath was changed in 1860 to show the oak wreath and shield style is not clear, as the cents of 1859 struck up sharply and seemed to be satisfactory from a minting viewpoint.

Splendid Proof 1859 Cent



98 **1859 Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS).** A splendid coin, brilliant, with the obverse as brilliant as can be, the reverse with slight golden toning, and deep mirror surfaces overall. The striking is exquisite, indeed *definitive* for the design. The "CAM" designation is of interest and within its category signifies this is rare, but likely many pieces not called "CAM" could easily be. So far as we know there was only one die pair used to strike Proofs.

PCGS Population: 4; 5 finer within the designation (Proof-66 Cameo finest).

Another 1859 Proof Cameo Cent



99 **1859 Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS).** Attractive golden surfaces with hints of magenta and blue-green iridescence most visible on the reverse. One of an estimated 1,000 or so Proofs of the date distributed and featuring pleasing cameo contrast.

PCGS Population: 4; 5 finer within the designation (Proof-66 Cameo).

Exceptional 1859 Indian Cent

Lustrous Gem



100 **1859 MS-65 (PCGS).** This is one of the nicest 1859 Indian cents we have ever seen, from the standpoint of striking detail. All elements are sharp, including the feather details on the obverse and the leaves on the reverse. The lustre on both sides is rich and somewhat satiny, overlaid with delicate light toning and a few flecks. The coin has great eye appeal and will be a pleasing addition to any specialized collection.

PCGS Population: 107; 13 finer (MS-66 finest).



101 **1859 MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous and attractive. A very appealing example of this issue, a *find* for anyone seeking a piece at the MS-64 level. Quite a few others are dull and unattractive. This one is not.

Gem 1860 Pointed Bust Cent

Elusive Variety



102 **1860 Pointed Bust. MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant, sharply struck, and with nice lustre on both sides, this is one of the choicest examples we have seen of this scarce variety. The Pointed Bust cent was not widely known until recent years, and, heaven knows, we probably handled some in the past and simply attributed them as "regular" 1860 cents, as did every other professional in existence. Now there is a difference, and the study by members of the Flying Eagle and Indian Cent Club and others, have shown that the Pointed Bust variety is very rare in comparison to the regular or Rounded Bust.

This particular reverse style, with a spade-shaped shield at the top, seems to have sprung from almost nowhere, with no counterpart among pattern cents of 1858 (a veritable playground of design ideas). Toward the end of 1859 this style was used on some transitional pieces, sometimes called patterns, and other times considered as regular issues (such as in the 18th edition of *The Standard Catalog of United States Coins,* 1958, edited by John J. Ford, Jr.). The motif became standard either in late 1859 or in 1860, depending upon your mind set. The reverse, although characterized as an *oak* wreath, actually has another type of leaves, presumably laurel, immediately to the left of the bow ribbon, after which the composition changes to oak. On the right side of the wreath oak seems to be used entirely. Under magnification many acorns can be seen.



103 **1860 Rounded Bust. MS-65 (PCGS).** Pleasing light golden toning and lustrous, frosty surfaces. Far above average in striking sharpness. A very nice example of the first year with the oak wreath and shield reverse and, as such, an ideal candidate for inclusion in a type set.



104 **1860 Pointed Bust. MS-64 (NGC).** Muted yellow gold obverse, light yellow and brown toned reverse. Sharply struck. A nice example of this elusive variety, widely sought in recent times.

105 **Quartette of Mint State Indian cents:** ☆ 1860 Rounded Bust. MS-63. Lustrous with minute spotting visible under magnification ☆ 1873 Open 3. MS-62 BN. Original mint lustre visible in the protected areas ☆ 1905 MS-64 RD. Lustrous with minute spotting noted under magnification ☆ 1909-S MS-60 BN. Lustrous with traces of an old fingerprint and minute spotting mostly on the obverse. (Total: 4 pieces)

Gem Proof 1861 Cent



(2x photo)

106 **1861 Proof-65 (PCGS).** A pristine specimen, never dipped or brightened, of this Proof issue, one of the most desired in the copper-nickel series. The specialist in Indian cents will want to compete strongly to acquire this. Not often is this quality encountered.

Gem Proof 1862 Cent



(2x photo)

107 **1862 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold. Virtually perfect, separated from that ideal by just a few tiny spots here and there, but far finer than usually seen.

Gorgeous Gem 1863 Cent



108 **1863 MS-66 (PCGS).** A splendid coin, earning high marks for the assigned grade and, separately, high marks for the deep rich lustre, but *most important* for the very sharp striking. The rule, not the exception, is that cents of this date, and even more so for the 1864 copper-nickel issues, are flatly struck, usually on the feathers. The present piece, well struck, will certainly satisfy its next owner.

Extremely Rare Proof 1864 L Cent

Fewer than 20 Confirmed



(2x photo)

109 **1864 L on Ribbon. Proof-63 RB (PCGS).** Further endorsed by Eagle Eye and accompanied by a ticket or photographic card from that source. Beyond that a letter from Walter Breen is included. The surfaces are mostly red, toning in a somewhat mottled fashion to brown, with some splashes of blue. The striking is very sharp.

The full story of the Proof 1864 Indian cent with L (for Longacre) on the ribbon has been the subject of study in recent years. It seems likely that some Proofs were struck in 1864, and some others were struck later in 1871, the latter year being a time when the Mint perhaps sought to help collectors fill in their sets (as other early Proofs were also made). No mint figures exist for either 1864 or 1871, so the details are not known. A puzzlement arises in that while reviewing numismatic auction catalogues and other literature up through and including 1871, we have yet to come across a mention

of the L on Ribbon feature (if someone has information to the contrary, we would be pleased to receive it). Accordingly, a collector of Indian Head cents in 1871 would likely want a copper-nickel cent of this year and also a bronze cent, but would not be aware that two different bronze varieties existed, one without the L (as normally seen) and the other with the L.

Whatever the total number made was, the quantity must have been small, for today fewer than 20 Proofs have been verified. Accordingly, this is the great stumbling block in the formation of a complete run of Proofs in the Indian cent series from 1859 to 1909. Indeed, there is no close contender.

PCGS Population: 1; 6 finer within the designation (Proof-66 RB finest).

Accompanied by a Capital Plastics Holder containing a Walter Breen letter attesting to its authenticity.

Gem 1864 L Cent

Lustrous Mint State



(2x photo)

110 **1864 L on Ribbon. MS-65 RD (PCGS).** Bright and brilliant, mint orange with just some tiny shading to natural brown. Sharply struck. One of the nicest 1864 L cents we have seen in a long time. We expect a lot of action when this crosses the block, for few counterparts exist—never mind the grading numbers (which we typically discard in our mind when evaluating the availability of pieces with *eye appeal*).

Quite a few years ago we had occasion to go through a large quantity of unsorted worn Indian cents. In looking at many dated 1864, we found that about one in three or four had the L on the ribbon. Accordingly, this might give a key as to the amount minted, said to have been 39,233,714 for all of the bronze pieces.

Lovely Proof 1865 Cent



111 **1865 Proof-64 RD (PCGS).** A splendid specimen with light red-orange surfaces, highly mirror like, and very attractive. One of the nicest Proofs we have seen of this date in a long time, and this includes those graded Proof-64 and Proof-65. An Eagle Eye certificate accompanies. We strongly recommend a "stretch" bid to land this beauty for your own collection.

Gem Proof 1867 Indian Cent

Tied for Finest Certified by PCGS



(2x photo)

112 **1867 Proof-65 RD (PCGS).** Bright red surfaces with slight contrast between the devices and fields. Virtually all design features are boldly and sharply struck. Some minute spotting can be seen on both surfaces under low magnification. Among the finest full red Proofs of the date graded by PCGS, with none exceeding this numerical grade within the Red designation.

PCGS Population: 11; none finer within the designation.



113 **1868 MS-64 RD (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous. Very attractive. A planchet defect is seen in the field just before OF, but not sufficiently harmful to prevent Eagle Eye from issuing a certificate. The present piece is quite nice.

MS-65 RD 1870 Cent



114 **1870 MS-65 RD (PCGS).** Lustrous bright orange-red surfaces, deeply frosty, with just a hint of toning. Among the nicest circulation strikes we have ever seen.

From the Richard Collection, as noted on the PCGS label.



115 **1871 MS-64 RB (PCGS).** Blended red and brown surfaces of the popular woodgrain effect, more prominent on the obverse than on the reverse. One of the scarcest dates in the Indian cent series.

116 **1872 MS-62 BN.** A lovely, indeed *lovable* specimen, presenting to the eye just about anything the connoisseur would want in a truly nice coin of this key date. First of all, the lovely *natural* brown toning, is evenly and nicely blended with hints of original red, more on the reverse than the obverse.

The 1872 is one of the most important issues in the Indian cent series. Quality pieces are difficult to find, and often those at lower levels, such as the MS-62 we assign here, can lack eye appeal. This present piece has everything and is worthy of a strong bid.

Gem Proof 1873 Cent

Close 3 in Date



117 **1873 Close 3. Proof-65 RD (PCGS).** A splendid specimen *which has never been dipped,* a piece displaying bright original mint orange (called red by the grading service), with, on the reverse, some nuances of the popular woodgrain effect. One of the nicest Proofs we have ever seen of this date—and we certainly have seen our share or more!

Second Gem Proof 1873 Close 3 Cent



118 **1873 Close 3. Proof-65 RD (PCGS).** A lively orange gem with a touch of rose creeping in.

1873 Close 3 Indian Cent

MS-65, Rare So Fine



119 **1873 Close 3. MS-65 RB (PCGS).** A lovely specimen combining a variety and grade that was scarce years ago and is even scarcer today. The present specimen is mostly original mint red, just beginning to naturally fade to brown, presenting an overall attractive appearance. Probably this could be called "RD" without much fear of criticism. As it is, red and brown, it offers a great deal of value if purchased at a price attached to this grade.

120 **1874 Proof-65 RB (NGC).** Mostly brilliant, pale orange, with deep mirror surfaces. Some toning areas on the tips of the first two feathers and general light toning on the reverse.

Richly Lustrous 1874 Cent



121 **1874 MS-65 RD (NGC).** A splendid specimen with rich orange lustre just beginning to fade to natural brown, in the ever popular woodgrain style. A really nice example that will satisfy any advanced collector's need for a circulation strike representative of this popular date.

122 1875 MS-65 BN (NGC). Richly lustrous red and brown surfaces, despite the "BN" designation. About 60% to 70% brown and 30% or 40% red, from a quick glance.

Gem 1876 Indian Cent



(2x photo)

123 **1876 MS-65 RD (NGC).** Rich orange-red lustre, sharply struck, and very beautiful. Seemingly *original* color, not from dipping. A very handsome example of this centennial year issue, one that deserves a strong bid from the advanced buyer.

124 1876 MS-65 BN (NGC). A lustrous example, very well struck, exhibiting a very choice blend of original mint orange and golden toning. A piece that has a tremendous amount of eye appeal.

Superb Gem Proof 1877 Cent



(2x photo)

125 **1877 Proof-65 RD (PCGS).** Brilliant orange-red surfaces, well struck, and with great eye appeal. A lovely cent, never dipped (and as such in the *minority* of "RD" Proofs) and never fussed with. A coin that is appealing, and one that we expect will bring a very generous price—deservedly so.

The mintage of the Proof 1877 Indian cent is not known, but we estimate it at perhaps 1,500 pieces. The *Guide Book* simply lists the mintages for *silver* Proofs, always lower than for Proof cents, and adds a + as an estimate.

Generations of numismatists have worshipped at the shrine of the 1877, *the* key date in the series. Although examples are not impossibly rare today, but simply are scarce, in relationship to the demand for them they are hard to find. At the gem level quality is apt to vary dramatically. Among Proofs, many that are today designated as brilliant or "RD" are that way by virtue of having been dipped and brightened. Truly pristine Proofs, as here, are sufficiently in the minority that we probably see only one or two per year!

Marvelous 1877 Indian Cent

Really Choice Mint State!



(2x photo)

126 **1877 MS-64 RD (PCGS).** Brilliant, beautiful, *really choice*. The added comment is necessary, as so few coins at the MS-64 RD category are truly attractive. Most have spotting, dullness, or other problems. Indeed, this piece was so exceptional that Eagle Eye issued a special certification of desirability, signed on the back by Richard Snow, which accompanies the present coin.

As you know if you are a longtime reader of the descriptions we turn out, there is often more, *far more,* to a coin than a simple grading number. In instances such as the present, when the grading number is there but the *quality* is incredible, far finer than usually seen, the knowing buyer is recommended to reach or stretch to acquire it. This is truly one of the nicest Mint State 1877 Indian cents we have ever seen—a significant statement, as we probably have seen as many as any group of professionals in numismatics.

Superb Gem Proof 1878 Cent



127 **1878 Proof-66 RD (PCGS).** Bright and somewhat light orange surfaces, deep mirror fields, and frosty devices, the type of Proof that could be called "CAM" if desired. Sharply struck and quite attractive overall, of special interest due to its Condition Census status among pieces with the "RD" attribution.

PCGS Population: 9; 1 finer within the designation (Proof-67 RD finest).

128 1878 Proof-64 RB (PCGS). Brilliant, beautiful, and well worth owning. Although this is RB, it has most of its original color.



129 **1878 MS-66 RB (NGC).** A splendid specimen, *one of the finest seen,* with bright orange lustre gently toning to natural brown. Well struck and with great eye appeal. A "must have" coin for the connoisseur and advanced collector.

130 **Quartette of Proof Indian and Lincoln cents:** ☆ 1879 Proof-64 RB. Reflective with splashes of iridescent blue ☆ 1883 Proof-65 BN. Iridescent gold, blue-green, and lavender highlights over reflective surfaces ☆ 1912 Proof-64 BN. Reflective with iridescent sea green and magenta highlights ☆ 1914 Proof-64 RB. Reflective with iridescent magenta highlights on both surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)



131 **1879 MS-65 RD (PCGS).** Rich orange surfaces just beginning to blend to light brown. Well struck. A very handsome coin.

132 **1879 MS-64 RB (PCGS).** Lustrous and attractive with mostly red surfaces, clearly at the high end of all cents with the "RB" designation. Well struck, with only minor softness in the reverse shield as often seen. Some minute spotting is noted under low magnification.

Gorgeous Gem Proof 1884 Cent

None Finer Graded



(2x photo)

133 **1884 Proof-67 RD (PCGS).** A gorgeous specimen, nearly full mint orange (red), nicely struck, and with superb eye appeal. One of just 10 certification *events* by PCGS at this level (not necessarily representing *different* coins), with none finer. The eye appeal of this coin, bright original color just beginning to show a nuance of natural brown, is all there.

PCGS Population: 10; none finer within the designation.

Splendid 1884 Proof Cent



134 **1884 Proof-67 RB (PCGS).** This Proof, with completely *original* surfaces, mint orange nicely blended to natural brown, would suit us perfectly if we were putting together a gem set. The quality is all there, and, remarkably, it has not been improved by "coin doctors" or anyone else. Not rare overall, but certainly elusive with this combination of eye appeal and untouched surfaces.

Exceptional Quality 1884 Cent
Proof-66 RD



(2x photo)

135 **1884 Proof-66 RD Cameo (PCGS).** An exceptional quality piece, about as nice as exists anywhere. If a superb gem is on your want list or wish list, the desire can be fulfilled here.

PCGS Population: 3; 1 finer (Proof-67).

Exceptional Proof 1884 Cent



(2x photo)

136 **1884 Proof-66 RD (PCGS).** Another truly exceptional specimen, pristine original orange-red color with just a nuance of natural toning. Deep mirror surfaces, frosty devices, and anything and everything else that could be desired—a coin to take home and keep forever!

Marvelous Proof 1885 Cent



137 **1885 Proof-66 RD (PCGS).** A splendid specimen ranking extremely high in overall quality—surface, eye appeal, and strike, and given an Eagle Eye Seal accordingly. Although the rarity of Proofs and circulation strikes should be considered separately, in this regard the 1884 is not a rarity within the decade, the fact remains that *as a date* this is the most prized of its time. The circulation strike mintage was small, placing an additional demand on the Proofs. This and certain other Proofs in the listing of Indian cents are simply *extraordinary* for their quality, and we strongly suggest that caution be thrown to the winds, or at least almost, and that connoisseurs take special notice of the opportunity.

From the Heathgate Collection.

Superb Gem 1886 Cent
Proof, Type I



138 **1886 Type I. Proof-66 RB (PCGS).** Although this is called "RB" you can go ahead and bid on it as if it were called "RD" for it is just as red-orange as many we have seen. Indeed, it is lovely, gorgeous, and well worth owning. Please ignore the color designation on the label when bidding! At least, that is what we would do if we were adding this into a superb gem set.

Glittering Gem Proof 1887 Cent



(2x photo)

139 **1887 Proof-65 RD (NGC).** A glittering bright orange Proof with some splashes of iridescent toning, particularly at the center of the obverse. A few flecks are seen here and there, including one on the rim below the date. Under high magnification there is some graininess, possibly from the die. Among gem Proof 1887 Indian cents given the "RD" designation by NGC this is clearly *Condition Census,* tied with only two others and with only one finer.

NGC Census: 3; 1 finer within the designation (Proof-66 RD).

140 1887 MS-64 RD (PCGS). Lustrous red surfaces beginning to fade to natural brown—an "original" example, and not easy to find as such.

Lovely Gem Proof 1890 Cent



141 **1890 Proof-65 RD (PCGS).** Brilliant orange-red, just beginning to tone, with some areas of magenta. A lovely specimen of the 1890 issue, this piece will be at home in any collection of exceptional quality.

From the Palm Beach Collection.



142 **1890 MS-65 RD (NGC).** Richly lustrous orange surfaces just beginning to blend to natural brown—an "as you like it" coin from the aspect of color, lustre, and quality.



143 **1891 MS-65 RD (NGC).** Orange-red color blending to light brown in areas, somewhat mottled on the reverse. Well struck.

Superb Gem Proof 1892 Cent



144 **1892 Proof-66 RD (NGC).** Red-orange surfaces, with delicate toning just beginning to form. A few microscopic flecks here and there, and some minor friction in the obverse field are noted.
NGC Census: 9; 5 finer with the designation (Proof-67 RD finest).

Gorgeous 1898 Proof Cent



145 **1898 Proof-66 RD (NGC).** Bright yellow-orange, with the reverse being red-orange and lightly toned. A few tiny flecks are seen on the reverse. A significantly above average example of this issue.
NGC Census: 7; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-67 RD finest).

146 **1899 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** Brilliant orange-red, beautiful, and of sufficient quality that a few tiny flecks do not make much of a difference. Easily as nice as some we have seen graded a number higher.



147 **1902 MS-67 RD (NGC).** Bright orange-red surfaces with accents of pale silver blue on the obverse. Radiantly lustrous.

Gem Proof 1904 Cent



148 **1904 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** Both surfaces are a rich orange-purple hue, tending toward magenta in certain areas. Sharply struck. The mintage of Proofs of this era was fairly low in comparison to the production of two decades earlier.

Spectacular Indian Cent Mint Error
Double Struck, Two Dates



149 **1907 Indian cent. Double struck. VF-30 (NGC).** A spectacular error, struck once in the press, rotated slightly, shifted about 50% off center, and then struck a second time, with the lucky numismatic consequence that two dates are visible. A dramatic Indian cent error. If you want only *one* Indian cent in your collection, perhaps this is it!

150 1909 V.D.B. Lincoln. MS-66 RD (PCGS). Full fiery red lustre across the mostly brilliant surfaces. An attractive gem specimen of this first Lincoln cent issue.

Gem Mint State 1909-S V.D.B. Cent



151 **1909-S V.D.B. MS-65 BN.** Lustrous and sharply struck with iridescent bluish green highlights on both surfaces. A lovely example of this most famous and popular Lincoln cent.

Choice 1909-S V.D.B. Cent



152 **1909-S V.D.B. MS-64 RD (PCGS).** A lovely specimen, one of the nicest we have seen recently at the MS-64 RD grade level (quality can vary all over the place, as advanced buyers know). If this, quite possibly the most popular rarity of the 20th century, is on your want list, you might want to take this one home.

Mint State 1909-S V.D.B. Cent



153 **1909-S V.D.B. MS-64 RD (NGC).** The present piece retains nearly full original mint lustre, with a number of flecks and tiny spots, particularly on the obverse. The striking is excellent. The mintmark S is out of alignment and leans to the right.

Another 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln Cent



154 **1909-S V.D.B. MS-64 RB (PCI).** Well struck. Heavily striated gold and brown surfaces from a poor alloy, a problem that plagued the early Lincoln cent issues.

From the Garrison Collection.



155 **1909-S V.D.B. Net EF-45;** sharpness of AU-55, with a couple of long old scratches on each side that are not particularly evident unless under magnification. Lovely golden brown surfaces.



156 **1909-S V.D.B. EF-40.** Medium brown surfaces with some lustre. Well struck and with pleasing appearance, a dandy example at this grade level.

157 **Quartette of 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln cents:** ☆ Net F-15; sharpness of VF-30, scratches ☆ F-15 (2) ☆ VG-10. Each with smooth brown surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)



158 **1909-S/S S over Horizontal S. MS-65 RD (PCGS).** A bright orange-red example of this, the first die punching error in the Lincoln cent series. A few minor flecks are seen here and there, not negative enough to be concerned with at the MS-65 grade. One of the nicest we have seen in recent times.

159 **Quintette of branch mint Lincoln cents:** ☆ 1909-S (2). MS-63 BN, EF-45 ☆ 1911-D MS-60 BN ☆ 1914-D (2). F-12, VG-8. A nice group. (Total: 5 pieces)

160 **1910 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** An outstanding example of a Matte Proof cent, one of the nicest seen, even though it is not called "Proof-67 Ultra Marvelous Gem" or anything like this. The surfaces are *original* orange-red, now beginning to lightly tone to brown, with a few splashes of gunmetal-blue on the reverse. Very few coins with *original* color survive, the majority having that attribute by virtue of cleaning and "doctoring." The connoisseur can well be satisfied with this piece—it is high quality and completely original.



161 **1910-S MS-65 RD (PCGS).** Brilliant with mottled orange-yellow surfaces. Original color is just beginning to tone. Fairly well struck, as are most of this date and mint.

Bright Matte Proof 1912 Cent



162 **1912 Matte Proof-64 RD (PCGS).** Bright yellow-gold surfaces with some parallel streaks of brown, the orientation due to the planchet preparation process through the rolling mill and drawbench.

Similar to the situation for most Matte Proofs the striking details are excellent. The present piece is quite a bit more brilliant than typically seen.

163 **Group of Mint State Lincoln cents:** ☆ 1912 MS-64 RD ☆ 1913-S MS-63 RB ☆ 1915 MS-64 (3). RD (2), BN ☆ 1923-S MS-62 BN ☆ 1924 MS-64 RB ☆ 1925 MS-63 RD ☆ 1926 MS-64 RD ☆ 1927 MS-64 RD. Each is lustrous and attractive with a few having minute spots noted under magnification. (Total: 10 pieces)



164 **1912-S MS-64 RD (PCGS).** A splendid specimen, well struck, with rich lustre. A few microscopic flecks are scarcely worthy of mention. Under careful inspection a tiny depression is seen at the top of the upright of T (CENT). All told this is a truly beautiful piece, fully equal to some graded in the MS-65 range. If Lincoln cents are your forte, consider this one carefully.



165 **1913-S MS-64 RD (PCGS).** Original mint red with some brown flecks and, on the reverse, a small area of gunmetal-blue. Not easy to find with this much original color.
From the LaBute Collection.



166 **1913-S MS-64 RD (PCGS).** Original mint color fading to light brown, with some flecks here and there on both sides.



167 **1914-S MS-64 RB (PCGS).** Mostly mint red and orange with some brown toning and, especially on the reverse, scattered flecks.

168 **Pair of Lincoln cents grading MS-64 RD:** ☆ 1917-D ☆ 1922-D. Both are lustrous and attractive. (Total: 2 pieces)

169 **Trio of 1922-D Lincoln cents:** ☆ MS-64 RD. Lustrous and attractive ☆ MS-63 RD (2). Both are lustrous with traces of faint speckling. (Total: 3 pieces)

170 Trio of 1922-D Lincoln cents grading MS-63 RB: All are lustrous and attractive with minute spotting visible. (Total: 3 pieces)

171 Quartette of 1922-D Lincoln cents: ☆ MS-63 RB. Lustrous and attractive ☆ Weak D. MS-63 RB. Lustrous ☆ MS-62 RD. Lustrous with some minute spotting noted ☆ MS-62 RB. Splashes of mint lustre visible in the protected areas. (Total: 4 pieces)

Key 1924-D Lincoln Cent

Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

172 **1924-D MS-65 RD (NGC).** Brilliant red-orange with some light toning to natural brown and a few flecks. With a significantly better strike than typically seen for 1924-D, and quite rare with *original* (not "improved") lustre. A very nice example that deserves a place in a high-quality specialized set of Lincoln cents.

Key 1926-S Lincoln Cent



(2x photo)

173 **1926-S MS-65 RB (NGC).** Orange-red surfaces with some magenta toning. Fairly "bright" overall. In higher grades with color the 1926-S is one of the more elusive issues in the series, and full *original red* specimens are so rare that years may lapse between offerings (a situation that is not particularly evident, as a number of dipped pieces have been categorized as such).
NGC Census: 26; 2 finer within designation (MS-66 RB).

Lustrous 1955 Doubled Die Cent



174 **1955 Doubled Die Obverse. MS-64 BN (PCGS).** A richly lustrous specimen with glossy light brown surfaces punctuated by a few hints of original mint red. A treat to the eye, this will be a delight to own, representing as it does one of the most famous of all 20th-century varieties.

175 **1972 Doubled Die Obverse. MS-66 RD (ICG).** Brilliant and lustrous. A splendid example of this popular scarce issue from a generation ago—with enough around that just about anyone can afford one, offering a pleasant diversion to the run of dates and mints from this period.

TWO-CENT PIECES

Our offering of two-cent pieces is particularly rich in a *curious* category of Proofs—pieces certified as Proof-64, but with sufficient eye appeal, in most instances, that they challenge "Proof-65 money." These pieces were gathered with care for a long period of years.

The two-cent piece became a reality in spring 1864, a time in which there were no silver and gold coins in circulation in the East or Midwest, and the need for small change was officially filled only by one-cent pieces in terms of coinage, plus many other media of exchange, including Fractional Currency bills (first released in August 1862), encased postage stamps, Civil War tokens, scrip notes, and more. The new denomination was launched to a flying start, and was accepted, until just one year later the nickel three-cent piece made its debut, after which two-cent pieces became redundant. Mintages diminished over a long period of years, to the vanishing point in 1873 at which time only Proofs were made for collectors.



176 **1864 Large Motto. Proof-64 RB (PCGS).** A very nice example at this grade level, the present piece has nicely blended surfaces. A few spots are seen on the reverse, not unusual. The eye appeal is far finer than normally encountered.

The rarity of Proof two-cent pieces in higher grades is not generally recognized. Most of those that come on the market have been dipped or otherwise improved, with the number of *originals* diminishing year by year.

177 **Quartette of Proof two-cent pieces:** ☆ 1864 Large Motto. Proof-64 BN (PCGS). Reflective smooth brown surfaces ☆ 1866 Proof-65 BN (NGC). Rich brown surfaces ☆ 1868 Proof-64 RB (PCGS). Reflective surfaces ☆ 1871 Proof-64 RB (PCGS). Reflective mint red obverse with deep red at the periphery, minute spots noted. The reverse is lovely satiny smooth brown. (Total: 4 pieces)

178 **Quartette of Proof RB two-cent pieces:** ☆ 1864 Large Motto. Proof-63 (PCGS). Reflective surfaces with splashes of iridescent blue and magenta ☆ 1865 Proof-64 (PCGS). Reflective with rich gunmetal-blue on the obverse the reverse with sea green and magenta ☆ 1867 Proof-64 (PCGS). Reflective golden brown surfaces ☆ 1871 Proof-65 (PCGS). Reflective with speckled toning on both surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)



179 **1865 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** A superb example at the Proof-65 level, the nicest we have seen in a long time. Yet, it is quite marvelous that the market value of this is perhaps less than $1,000.



180 **1867 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** Nicely blended toning over deep mirrored surfaces. Another very elegant Proof, one that will answer the call for anyone seeking a truly high quality example.



181 **1867 Proof-65 RB (NGC).** Light golden orange obverse, reverse lightly mottled brown toning. Sharply struck. Probably in the top 25% of existing pieces from the standpoint of quality.



182 **1867 Proof-64 RD (PCGS).** Brilliant with most original mint color. A tiny spot is seen on the shield, probably taking it down a notch on the grading ladder. Quite attractive overall.



183 **1868 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** Medium golden brown surfaces, nicely blended. A few flecks here and there, as normal, but another piece that stands far above the quality typically seen.

If you contemplate collecting Proof two-cent pieces by date sequence, it will be well worth your while to pause and reflect upon the offering here. The quality is significantly above average, probably the result of at least *several* coins being considered by the purchaser before a given specimen was acquired.



184 **1869 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** Nicely blended toning over virtually pristine surfaces. Another Proof two-cent piece of truly exceptional quality. This section of the catalogue represents one of the nicest offerings we have seen in a long time.



185 **1869 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** Somewhat mottled toning with some flecks, red and brown. Not quite as nice as the other Proof-65 issues in this listing, but still quite worthwhile.



186 **1870 Proof-64 RD (PCGS).** Nearly full original mint color, with just a few flecks. An exceptional example of this somewhat scarce date.

Gem Proof 1872 Two Cents



187 **1872 Proof-65 RB (PCGS).** Proof with red and brown surfaces, somewhat cloudy (probably could be improved with very careful conservation to remove the cloudiness, but not *dipping*). This seems to be the chrysalis of what could be a splendid numismatic butterfly. Perhaps those involved in the conservation trade could study this, buy it, and make a few dollars through expert care.

The 1872 is quite scarce in all grades. It has been our experience that there are fewer nice 1872 Proofs around than there are of the more famous 1873.

Classic 1873 Two-Cent Rarity

Close 3



188 **1873 Close 3. Proof-66 RB (PCGS).** Nicely blended mint orange-red with natural brown. A splendid specimen, far above average, of the last of the two-cent pieces, an issue struck only in Proof format with no related coins for general circulation.

PCGS Population: 15; none finer within the designation.

NICKEL THREE-CENT PIECES

What better way to start an offering of nickel three-cent pieces than with a gem Proof 1865 rarity from the first year of the design type? Struck in limited quantities after hundreds of sets were released without this "Johnnie-come-lately" issue, this rarity has long been a focus of serious collectors of Longacre's little "nickels" (for such they were once called). Many other dates are featured, including a gem Mint State-66 1871, a memorable specimen that should see enthusiastic bidding support. There's an awful lot of beauty and quality contained in this short offering—just 30¢ in face value—a fact that we're certain won't go unnoticed by our bidders.

Connoisseur's 1865 Three Cents

Superb Gem Proof



(2x photo)

189 **1865 Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS).** Specialists and connoisseurs seeking Proof nickel three-cent pieces know that one coin stands tall and proud above the others in terms of rarity—it is the first year of issue, 1865. In that year coins of this denomination were not produced until after many Proof sets had been sold lacking such pieces. While some acquired single examples to fill in, some didn't. Today, Proofs of this year are very scarce. When seen they are apt to be significantly lower in assigned grade than here, and far lower in terms of *eye appeal*. The present coin brings it all together—sharp strike, deep mirror surfaces, delicate golden toning, eye appeal, and everything else. We expect a lot of interest when this crosses the block, foremost from specialists, but its status as the first year of the type will appeal to those assembling sets by design. Get ready, get set, and go!

Under magnification it is seen that the last two digits are significantly repunched at the upper left.

Exceptional Proof 1867 Nickel 3¢



190 **1867 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant and attractive with delicate champagne toning. A very nice Proof, indeed exceptional. Proofs of the 1860s are several times rarer than Proofs of the 1880s, although this is not generally known (except for those who read all of the "stuff" that we write on such subjects). Beautiful strike with all of the vertical ribs in III sharp.



191 **1868 Proof-65 (NGC).** A brilliant and very attractive example. Some lightness of strike on the reverse. Obverse die somewhat bulged. A very *interesting* Proof under magnification. Proof examples of this decade are significantly rarer than those of 20 years later.

Superb Proof 1870 3¢



192 **1870 Proof-66 (NGC).** Delicate lilac toning over surfaces that are a mixture of satin and mirror on the obverse, mirror on the reverse. The way these Proofs varied from year to year within this series is an interesting study.

Memorable Gem 1871 Three Cents



193 **1871 MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous as can be, and sharply struck in most areas, this coin is one of the most memorable we have ever seen. The lustre is rich, deep, and virtually three dimensional. Some clash marks are seen under close examination. On the reverse there is some lightness of strike to the left of the III Roman numeral and at the upper right of the wreath. At this grade level *Proofs* are much more easily found than are Mint State pieces. Today many specialists collect them in parallel—forming a set of Mint State pieces and also a set of Proofs, each one of which marches to a different drummer with regard to rarity and availability.

Key 1877 Three Cents
Rarest of the Series



(2x photo)

194 **1877 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC).** A splendid specimen, this particular 1877 has *deep mirror surfaces,* an exception to the 1877 rule, as most are partly frosty. The striking is bold, the appearance is first class, and all told this coin has few peers anywhere in numismatics. Certainly worth a "stretch" bid by the specialist in this series.

It is our estimate that perhaps 1,250 to 1,500 1877 nickel three-cent pieces were made, all in Proof format, none as circulation strikes. The Proof finish of this year was typically not complete, not deeply mirrorlike, but on balance more mirrorlike than those of 1878 (examples of which often come "frosty," quite resembling circulation strikes, though only Proofs were struck).



195 **1879 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** A brilliant, beautiful example with just a whisper of lilac toning. Deep mirror surfaces, not always the case with nickel three-cent pieces of this date. The centers of the 8 and 9 are filled in on the die, giving them a particularly solid appearance. The reverse die has been relapped in the polishing process, not unusual, resulting in some slight disconnection of elements at the lower right. This same feature is seen on other Proofs of the era.



196 **1881 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant with just a hint of toning. A boldly impressed Proof, full mirror surfaces. The interiors of the two center digits are filled, giving the date an especially bold appearance.



197 **1886 Proof-65 (NGC).** Lightly mottled gold and brown toning on the obverse, mottled gray on the reverse. Scarce Proof-only date.



198 **1888 Proof-66 (PCGS).** A lovely *lustrous* coin, attributed as a Proof, as it may be, but with satiny lustre overall, if anything even more attractive than deep mirror surfaces. Adding to that is a delicate lilac toning overall with some hints of iridescence. All told this is one of the nicest 1888 nickel three-cent pieces we have ever laid eyes upon.

In this era and also extending back to 1877, many Proof nickel three-cent pieces are not deeply mirrorlike but, instead, have satiny fields, as here, with no deep reflection at all. That these are Proofs is evidenced by the appearance of related coins in original Proof sets from these years. The Mint did not take care to polish the dies. Numismatically and price-wise this makes little difference today, for pieces with satiny lustre are perhaps even more desired, as noted above.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECES

Our offering of silver three-cent pieces, called *trimes* in Treasury correspondence of the era, is exceptional. This is a highly collectible series, with no "impossible" rarities. And yet, many pieces are indeed elusive and rare, it is just that they are not particularly high priced. Nowhere is this more evident than on coins from the Civil War through the end of the series, 1873. Most of the pieces in this section were carefully gathered by a consignor with an eye for quality, with the result that most certified as MS-64 go beyond that in terms of value and eye appeal. All silver three-cent photographs are 2x.



199 **1859 Proof-64 (PCGS).** *Undergraded* Proof-64, in our opinion, this piece handily competes with those in the Proof-65 category. Just check it out. The obverse and reverse are delicately toned an iridescent hue over deep mirror surfaces. The striking is exquisite. This is one of the very nicest pieces we have ever seen of *any* Proof of this date. Further important as the first year of issue of the Type III design. A very *impressive* coin!

200 **Pair of silver three-cent pieces grading Proof-63 (PCGS):** ☆ 1859 ☆ 1860. Both with splashes of bluish gray and golden rose toning. (Total: 2 pieces)

Gorgeous Proof 1861 Trime



201 **1861 Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS).** Brilliant silver centers change to magenta and blue. A simply gorgeous piece, well struck, and of sufficient quality that if it brought a "Proof-64 price" we would not be surprised and it would be fully worth it. One glance at the coin will convince!

PCGS Population: 6; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-66 DCAM finest).

202 **1862 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Light gray and golden toning, with some flecks of blue, over mirrored surfaces. One of just 550 Proofs minted.

203 **Pair of silver three-cent pieces grading Proof-63 (PCGS):** ☆ 1862. Reflective golden rose with splashes of bluish gray ☆ 1866. Reflective with hints of golden rose on both surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

204 **1863 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Iridescent "album toning," halo effect, changing from magenta at the center to blue and gold at the rims. Scarce Civil War year. Just 460 Proofs were made, the lowest figure of the era.

Fantastic Gem 1863 Trime



205 **1863 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant, deeply lustrous, and exceptionally well struck, this piece is as nice as the day it was minted. The fields are deeply lustrous, the striking is excellent except for a weakness near the topmost star point, and overall the quality is of a degree seldom encountered in the marketplace. As if this were not enough, the 1863 registers a low mintage of just 21,000 circulation strikes.

206 **1864 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Lightly mottled iridescent toning, with splashes of magenta and blue, over deep mirrored surfaces. An especially attractive example of this issue.

The Proof-64 trimes in this section are generally far above average for that grade and, in the instance of the earlier mentioned 1859, truly *extraordinary*. If you are a slave to grading numbers, then these are "only" Proof-64. However, if you care to look beyond that, confronting you will be some coins of exceptional quality.



207 **1865 Proof-65 (PCGS).** Mottled medium gold and blue toning over mirrored surfaces. A gem specimen of a date that is elusive in all grade categories.

Gem Proof 1866 Trime



208 **1866 Proof-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant silver surfaces with delicate iridescent toning. Nicely struck. A superb exemplar of this elusive date.

The formation of a collection of trimes is an interesting endeavor, and one that is quite satisfying. The coins themselves are rather small, thus removing them from consideration by many—especially those who enjoy "hefty" pieces such as silver dollars and double eagles. However, within the context of small diameter pieces the trimes are quite fascinating and are somewhat overlooked

A complete run of dates can be assembled from 1851 through 1873 inclusive, plus the solitary branch mint issue of 1851-O. Generally, the Type I trimes of 1851-1853 are readily available in Mint State, the Type II pieces of 1854-1858 sometimes are, but sharp strike is a formidable challenge. Type III pieces from 1859-1873 can be acquired in Proof or a mixture of Proof and Mint State pieces, although Mint State coins after about 1865 are seldom seen. Price levels seem to be rather modest, especially at the MS-64 and Proof-64 levels, as these numbers have not attracted investors. Even for gems the cost is not high. Quality is quite separate from numerical designations, and because of this you can be prepared to spend several years assembling a full set in MS-64 (or Proof-64) or finer grade, the stumbling blocks being sharply struck examples of the Type II.

209 **1866 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Light gunmetal-blue toning over deep mirrored surfaces. A splendid piece, a *rarity* that has an incredibly low market value in comparison to the number of pieces that are actually around (dig out your handy copy of the *Guide Book,* look up the mintage figures for Mint State and Proof, and come to your own conclusion.



210 **1867 Proof-65 (PCGS).** Lightly mottled gold and blue toning over mirrored surfaces. A truly gorgeous specimen of yet another rare date—*all* trimes of this era are rare. Quality such as this is not often found. If collecting silver three-cent pieces is on your dream list, why not begin with this catalogue?

211 **1867 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Light gray and gold toning over mirrored surfaces. Exceptional quality from the standpoint of contact marks, etc. Sharply struck.

212 **1868 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Lightly mottled iridescent toning over deep mirrored surfaces. Yet another truly *fantastic* trime, a Proof-64 coin that easily eclipses many certified as Proof-65 or even Proof-66. As noted, if you are contemplating collecting this series, this may be one of the best opportunities you will have for a long time.

213 **1869 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant at the centers changing to splashes of magenta and gold at the rim. Deep mirrored surfaces. Another coin which could just as easily be called Proof-65. We don't mean to overdo our enthusiasm, but these coins are *really* special.

214 **1870 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Lightly mottled gold toning at the center changes to splashes of gold and magenta at the border, all over deep mirrored surfaces. Although all trimes of this era are rare, it has been our experience that those from 1866 through and including 1872 (but not 1873) are especially difficult to find in truly choice preservation, with worthwhile eye appeal.

Iridescent Proof 1870 Trime



215 **1870 MS-65 (NGC).** A lovely specimen of this issue, the obverse has iridescent toning, primarily blue but with splashes of magenta and some areas of lavender. The reverse is light silver-brown, with some darker brown areas. Well struck.

216 **1871 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Gunmetal-blue toning over mirrored surfaces. A splendid example of this scarce and desirable date.

Gem Proof 1871 Trime



217 **1871 MS-66 (NGC).** Mottled gray, magenta, and iridescent toning over mirrored silvery surfaces. Well struck. A high-grade example of this late date, one typically seen only in Proof, but usually in a somewhat lesser grade.



218 **1872 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Mottled blue (primarily) and iridescent toning over mirrored surfaces. Quite hard to find so nice.

Gem 1873 Proof-Only Trime



219 **1873 Proof-65 (PCGS).** Another marvelous trime, a beautiful piece with "album toning," iridescent, with just about every color in the rainbow, changing from the center toward the rims.

While the 1873 Proof trime is not as rare as certain of the preceding years (as some of these were kept back in small hoards by dealers), it has garnered most of the press ink as the mintage of just 600 coins, with no circulation strikes, stands out like a beacon. Of course, the 1873 *is* rare (it is just that certain of the others are just as rare, but not recognized).

Another Appealing 1873 Proof-Only Trime



220 **1873 Proof-65 (PCGS).** A very appealing example, this coin is absolutely pristine, with deeply mirrored silver surfaces overlaid with splashes of iridescence—as pretty as a picture! For the buyer with a sharp eye for quality this coin beckons.

NICKEL FIVE-CENT PIECES

Our offering begins with a gem Proof 1866 Shield nickel followed by many other Proofs of the design type. Indeed, the only Mint State Shield nickel offered herein is a superlative gem MS-67 specimen from the final date of the design type, 1883. Of course, Liberty nickels are well represented by several examples of the ever-popular 1883 No CENTS type. Plenty of Proof and Uncirculated dates follow afterward, with the listing for the series finishing with a gem MS-65 1912-S! Only four overall types (not including sub-types such as with and without rays, etc.) of nickel five-cent pieces have been struck at the U.S. Mints—Shield, Liberty, Buffalo and Jefferson—and the first two types, Shield and Liberty, are well represented here!

Key 1866 Proof Nickel
With Rays



(2x photo)

221 **1866 Rays. Proof-65 Cameo (NGC).** Well struck and attractive, frosty surfaces set against mirror fields. Light golden toning. This is an example of the first year and type in the Shield nickel series. These were not produced until the summer of 1866, by which time quite a few Proof sets had been ordered lacking this denomination (somewhat echoing the same situation that occurred with nickel three-cent pieces in 1865). The Mint issued a notice that the deficiency could be made up by sending 10¢ each for any Proofs desired. Apparently, some collectors did this, but not many. Today the 1866 Proof remains quite rare, and we estimate that fewer than 500 are known.

222 **1872 Proof-65 (PCGS).** A splendid Proof of this date, with deep mirror surfaces overlaid with just a nuance of champagne toning. This piece has a great deal of old fashioned eye appeal, an elusive aspect of many Proofs of this era. In our view this is worth a very strong price. If we were collecting Proof Shield nickels our search would stop right here.



223 **1873 Close 3. Proof-65 (NGC).** A lovely Proof, exceptional quality. Light golden toning over mirror surfaces. Wouldn't it be nice if all Proof Shield nickels were this attractive?



224 **1874 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** A lovely example, well struck on both sides, with attractive mirror surfaces. Light toning. An above average example of this Proof issue, right in step with the general quality described elsewhere in this catalogue.

Superb Gem Proof 1875 Nickel

Among Finest Graded



225 **1875 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** A superb specimen combining sharp strike, deep mirror surface, brilliance, and outstanding eye appeal. Another winner!



226 **1876 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC).** Deep mirrored fields have light champagne toning, a minimum of flecks, and an overall appearance that makes this one of the nicest you will see at the Proof-65 level. A *find* for the Shield nickel specialist.

Key 1877 Shield Nickel



227 **1877 Proof-65 (NGC).** Well struck, deeply mirrorlike, and very attractive. Delicate champagne toning. One of the nicest we have seen in recent times of this classic, the lowest mintage issue of any nickel five-cent piece from 1866 to date, except for the famous 1913 Liberty Head. The number produced is not recorded, but is likely in the range of 1,250 to 1,500. Today, most fall short of the present example in terms of eye appeal. This indeed is a "keeper." We expect a lot of bidding attention.



228 **1879/8 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Splashes of light gold over mirror surfaces. Attributed as an overdate, this variety is in the minority of Proofs this year, but not a great rarity.

Apex NGC 1881 Nickel

Finest and Only Graded at this Level



229 **1881 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** A superb specimen, the only piece designated Proof-67 Ultra Cameo by NGC with none finer. A well struck piece with deep mirror surfaces. As is true of all Proofs of this date there is added value to the 1881, as circulation strikes are very rare, placing additional demand on the Proofs.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the designation.



230 **1881 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant and attractive. A superb example of this Shield nickel variety, one that when seen in high grades is nearly always Proof. This generates the somewhat interesting circumstance, but very logical, that superb gem Proofs are valued less on the market than superb gem Mint State coins.

231 **1881 Proof-66 (PCGS).** A splendid Proof combining mirror surfaces with satiny *mint lustre,* but struck as a Proof. Many nickel coins of this era are hybrids, as here, and are very attractive.

232 **1882 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Another hybrid Proof, mirrored surfaces combined with satiny lustre. For many issues the dies were not deeply polished, this being true of nickel three-cent pieces as well.

233 1883 Shield. Proof-65. Brilliant and mirrorlike with some hints of satin, as made. Needle-sharp definition of details, virtually *definitive* for the design. Last year of the Shield nickel series. The present piece is ideal for either a type set or for the specialist.

Superb Gem 1883 Nickel

Shield, MS-67



234 **1883 Shield. MS-67 (NGC).** The present piece is exceptional among surviving Mint State coins of this, the last year in the Shield series. In addition to its unusually high numerical designation, the present piece exhibits rich lustre and sharply struck details, the latter not always being the case.

On the obverse the letters in the motto at the top of the coin are very heavy and with some of the spaces partially filled in. Some delicate die cracks can be seen here and there on the obverse, particularly near the top of the coin to the left of the dagger-cross. On the reverse a planchet flake is seen in the field near the top rim, and a tracery of cracks can be found among the letters from about the 9:00 position to 4:00, but not continuously.



235 **1883 No CENTS. MS-66 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold toning with blushes of iridescence, over surfaces that are partially prooflike. Some lightness at stars 12 and 13 is not unusual. This is the great "story coin" of its era, the face of Miss Liberty having launched thousands of citizens into the pursuit of numismatics, the key feature being the lack of the word CENTS on the reverse.

236 **1883 No CENTS. MS-66 (NGC).** Richly lustrous, exquisitely and sharply struck, and with light blue and gold toning, this piece stands tall and proud among coins given this grade. Not much more need be said.

237 1883 No CENTS. MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant, lustrous, and sharply struck. Another high-ranking example of this storied issue.

238 Trio of Liberty Head nickels: ☆ 1883 CENTS. MS-64. Golden orange over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1895 MS-63. Splashes of sunset orange and sky blue over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1912 MS-62. Lustrous with iridescent rose, gold, and sea green on both surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

239 **Pair of Liberty Head nickels grading Proof-65 (PCGS):** ☆ 1884. Reflective surfaces with splashes of golden orange toning on both surfaces ☆ 1911. Pale golden and bluish gray over reflective surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)



240 **1885 Proof-65.** An above-average example of the 1885, the present piece has excellent eye appeal. Both obverse and reverse are *original* surfaces, seemingly never dipped or brightened, and now have light gold toning. On the reverse under magnification can be seen a slight planchet streak at the upper right, not worth mentioning. For many years the 1885 has been *the* key Liberty Head nickel in the regular series from 1883 through 1912. It is remarkable to think that today in 2005 the market price of a Proof-65 is a *fraction* of what it was during the "Wall Street investment boom" of 1989-1990. Perhaps this indicates an *opportunity.*

241 **1886 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** Light champagne toning over sharply struck, pristine surfaces. A delightful example of an issue which is highly important *as a date,* as circulation strikes are very rare. If you were to ask us for a recommendation we might suggest that you think about a collection of of Liberty Head nickels, as Proofs today, in such desirable grades as Proof-64 and Proof-65, offer a tremendous value for the money, if quality is selected with care.

Notable Gem 1889 Nickel



242 **1889 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant surfaces, sharp strike, and high grade come together to make this a "must have" piece for the connoisseur or specialist in the series. Although the 1889 is not rare as a date, at this lofty grade it is not easy to find.



243 **1891 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** Sharply struck, brilliant, beautiful, a home run in quality.

244 **1892 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** A splendid coin with very delicate gold and blue iridescent surfaces, nicely struck, and certainly aesthetically among the top 10% of Proof survivors. As readers of our catalogues know well, our view is that certified grade can be one thing and quality can be something else entirely different. When the two meet, as here, a fine prospect is at hand.

Not to be overlooked is the general low market value of Proof-64 and Proof-65 Liberty Head nickels. Among those on the market, pieces that show excellent quality and eye appeal, as here, seem to us to have exceptional value. It would be an interesting and rewarding challenge to endeavor to put together a full set of Proofs from 1883 to 1912. Now seems to be a good time to do it!



245 **1894 Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS).** Brilliant and reflective with pleasing cameo contrast. Among the top 14 Proof examples of the date certified by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 12; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-67 Cameo finest).

246 **1894 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant, sharply struck, beautiful, and in a high grade. Today a coin such as this is priced at only a *fraction* of the market value during the "Wall Street money boom" of 1989-1990. The present piece would seem to be an especially good value if acquired at or near current listings.



247 **1899 MS-66 (NGC).** A lovely example in a high grade, this particular piece has light golden gray toning, is well struck, and similar to the preceding is not easy to find at this level.



248 **1903 MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant, sharply struck, lustrous, and with great eye appeal. Not rare as a date, but certainly rare (in its context) with the combination of assets just noted.

249 **1904 MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous with a hint of golden toning. A truly choice example of this year.



250 **1905 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous, and quite attractive. Some light striking at the topmost stars.



251 **1910 MS-66 (NGC).** Mottled iridescent toning over lustrous surfaces. A high-grade example.



252 **1911 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant and attractive. Some light striking at the top stars. Unusually high numerical grade.



253 **1912 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant with a nuance of golden toning. Lustrous. A dandy example which never got spent at the Bijou Dream or the Electric Theater, or some other nickelodeon, but which instead was carefully preserved.

Under-Appreciated 1912-D Nickel

Gem Mint State



254 **1912-D MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant, well struck, and very attractive. Light golden toning. Some marks on the cheek may include some on the *original planchet*. In our view the 1912-D in this grade is *much rarer* than the more famous 1912-S. The number of equivalent gems we have handled in more than 50 years of professional numismatics has been in the dozens, while for the 1912-S it has been in the hundreds. Of course, the 1912-S is eminently desirable. See the following attractions!

Famous 1912-S Key Issue



(2x photo)

255 **1912-S MS-65 (NGC).** A lovely example, lustrous with light golden and gray toning, of this famous low-mintage issue. As is true of every other authentic 1912-S nickel we have seen, there is some slight bulging in the left obverse field and some lightness of strike at the hair. As all are this way, this cannot be considered a negative.

The low mintage of 238,000 stands like a beacon in the Liberty Head nickel series, being the lowest by far of any variety from 1883 through 1912. Further, this represents the first nickel five-cent piece struck at the San Francisco Mint and the only one of this design.

Choice 1912-S Nickel



256 **1912-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Gray and gold toning over satiny surfaces. Fields somewhat bulged and irregular. A particularly late die state. Rare in any and all grades.

BUFFALO NICKELS

The following offering of Buffalo nickels is extraordinary in its *quality.* Virtually every piece has far above average eye appeal, the result of having been selected carefully by our consignor, a specialist and connoisseur. Among 20th-century specialties of this era, the Lincoln cent, Buffalo nickel, Mercury dime, Standing Liberty quarter, and Liberty Walking half dollar all offer challenges in terms of true quality. Often, a half dozen or more pieces must be considered within a given grade in order to find one that is just right. In the present catalogue the consignor has done this "work" (actually a challenging pursuit and quite pleasant) for you.



257 **1913 Buffalo. Type I. MS-67 (PCGS).** A superb gem specimen from the grading viewpoint, this piece also passes muster in terms of *striking sharpness,* which, considering the entire series, could even be more important than technical grade. However, generally the 1913 Type I comes well struck, so the situation here is not as unusual as say, a decade later. The present piece combines high grading number, sharp strike, and superb eye appeal.

258 Old collection of Buffalo and Jefferson nickels ranging in date from 1913 through 1949-S, housed in a National Coin album. The Buffalo nickels range in grade from Good to Uncirculated, though the majority average Fine or so. Several dates are missing including the following: ☆ 1924-D ☆ 1926 ☆ 1930 ☆ 1930-S ☆ 1931-S ☆ 1935-S ☆ 1937-D 3-Legs ☆ 1938-D/S. The Jefferson nickels average MS-63, or so and are complete from 1938 to 1949-S. A nice set with room for improvement, housed in a nicely cared for National Coin album. (Total: 94 pieces)

Marvelous 1913 Type II Nickel
Superb Gem Matte Proof



(2x photo)

259 **1913 Type II. Proof-67 (NGC).** A marvelous specimen with delicate iridescent toning over sharply struck surfaces. If you wish to, tap into our subsequent discussion about striking sharpness of Buffalo nickels (and other coins). This particular piece is *definitive* for its sharpness of strike—just check out the head details of the buffalo above and to the left of the horn.



260 **1913 Type II. Straight clip and broadstruck. UNC details (NCS).** An impressive error in the Buffalo nickel series. NCS calls the obverse "improperly cleaned" and some horizontal hairlines are noted, but the lustre and eye appeal remain strong, with bold silver gray color and some golden tones near the right obverse and base of reverse. Not weighed by NCS (making it difficult to say what percentage clip this is), but the straight clip across the top of the obverse affects the top of the Indian's head and removes the entire reverse exergue in very neat fashion; we would estimate it as a 15% clip. A very significant major error, one impressive enough to be the plate coin in the Lange reference on Buffalo nickels.

Gem 1913-S Type II Nickel



(2x photo)

261 **1913-S Type II. MS-65 (NGC).** Medium gold toning with splashes of iridescence over well struck, lustrous surfaces. A very nice example of this issue, one of the keys to the series.

262 **1913-S Type II. MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, and with light golden toning. Quite well struck.

Time was when Buffalo nickels could be obtained from circulation. In the 1950s, the key issues were, in order, the 1913-S Type II, the 1918/7-D, and the 1926-S. Today the *foundational value* of the 1913-S Type II nickel is enhanced by its elusive character in worn grades, something that provides a nice prop to the market price. Indeed, in the latest issue of the *Guide Book* an example in G-4 catalogues for $250, second only to the overdate. We see a lot of *hidden* value at the MS-63 level.

Mint State 1914/3 Nickel



263 **1914/3 Fivaz-Stanton 014-87. MS-61 (NGC).** Satiny golden gray surfaces with good lustre for the grade. A lovely example of this popular and recently discovered variety, with the diagnostic crossbar of the earlier punched 3 easily visible, though the die is well worn.

264 **1914/3-D FS 014-88. VF-25 (NGC).** Medium gray surfaces as is fairly typical for the grade. The rarest of the three 1914/3 overdates, with only two examples of this date and mintmark certified by NGC, and none identified by PCGS. According to our consignor, this specimen was the first one recognized by NGC.

NGC Census: 1; 1 finer (EF-45 finest).

265 **1914/3-S FS 014.89. VF-30 (NGC).** Pleasing medium gray surfaces with a few faint hairlines seen. The second rarest mint among the overdate 1914 nickels.

Superb Matte Proof 1914 Nickel



(2x photo)

266 **1914 Proof-68 (ICG).** A superb specimen with delicate blue and gold toning over well-struck surfaces, every feature of the Buffalo being definitive. This coin furnishes a model of what to look for elsewhere, sharpness seldom seen outside of the Matte Proof series.



267 **1914-S Broadstruck. MS-64 (NGC).** Lustrous golden gray with some attractive undertones. A very pretty coin and an ideal representative example of an uncentered broadstrike on this design type. The obverse is shifted a small margin to 6:00, while the reverse shows a significant unstruck area beneath the mintmark. A tiny planchet flaw is noted at the base of the Indian's lowest feather. Errors are clearly very elusive on this date, making this a prize for a specialized collection.

Gem 1915-D Nickel



268 **1915-D MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous. Light blue and gold toning over essentially full silver surfaces. Somewhat above average in strike, this coin has a generous quotient of eye appeal.

Striking Aspects of Buffalo Nickels

Today in the marketplace the striking aspects of Buffalo nickels 1913-1938 are largely ignored. This is quite curious, as in other fields the striking becomes an important part of the grading and, consequently, the market value. Among Mercury dimes 1916-1945 we have Full Bands (FB) designating pieces for which the horizontal bands or stripes are separated on the fasces. Such striking sharpness *always* lends some value, and in certain instances, most dramatically in the case of the 1945 Philadelphia Mint Mercury dime, an FB coin can be worth thousands of dollars, whereas one that is not FB can be purchased for a $10 bill.

In the Standing Liberty quarter series 1916-1930 we have Full Head (FH) as a designation. There has been a fair amount of fudging on this in recent years, and "FH" can also mean *almost* Full Head, as a review of certified pieces will reveal. Nevertheless, FH does indicate a piece struck better than usual, and these bring a premium. Among Franklin half dollars we have Full Bell Lines (FBL), some common varieties of which can be worth a great deal of money if they are with FBL.

It seems to the writer (QDB) that Buffalo nickels have a much greater striking problem than Mercury dimes, Standing Liberty quarters, or Franklin half dollars. It might be a desirable idea if instead of using FB, FBL, FH, and other such designations (and we must not forget Full Steps (FS) for Jefferson nickels), a universal designation such as FD (Full Details) would be more understandable. Just a suggestion for NGC and PCGS.

In the field of Buffalo nickels there are some varieties that usually come well struck, most notably those toward the beginning and very end of the series, as well as a number of the Philadelphia Mint issues in between. Denver coins of the 1920s and, to a lesser extent, San Francisco coins, are often lightly struck. The worst offender is the 1926-D, which can be as flat as a pancake with "muddy" details, especially on the reverse.

Points to look for sharpness on a Buffalo nickel include on the obverse the details of the top feather and the details just above the top of the braid. Of course, it is recommended that all other areas be checked as well. The reason for saying this is that in some definitions *other areas* are not checked at all. For example, we have seen 1921 dimes as well as Standing Liberty quarters that have been designated as FB and FH respectively, that may have Full Bands or Full Heads, but have weakness elsewhere. In the writer's opinion, one must consider the entire coin, not some pinpoint feature.

On the reverse of the Buffalo nickel the first place to check for striking is the hair details of the bison right above his forehead. These are often blended together and flat. Next check are the details of the left front leg, usually also flat. Beyond that, check everything else.

Life is a compromise, and so it is with the collecting of Buffalo nickels. No one has nor will anyone ever put together a set from 1913 to 1938 with needle-sharp details in the features just mentioned. However, at present those seeking certified coins, including for the popular Registry Sets, have the very curious situation in which a flatly struck MS-66 coin is considered to be more desirable than a very well-struck MS-65! To the present writer this makes no sense at all.

In the works, as these words are being written, is a new study for Whitman Publishing Company, expected to be released nationwide in 2005, now with the working title of *The Official Red Book of U.S. Nickel Five-Cent Pieces*. This will endeavor to tell the complete story of this denomination beginning with the pattern and experimental issues of 1865, through the regular Shield nickel series 1866-1883, into the Liberty Head nickels 1883-1913, then the Buffalo nickels, then the Jefferson nickels. Each date and mintmark will be discussed, together with observations concerning sharpness, quality, and other items of numismatic interest, along with a separately compiled (by Lawrence Stack, evaluations editor) listing of market values in different grades, plus certification information.

Lustrous 1915-D 5¢



269 **1915-D MS-65 (PCGS).** Lustrous and primarily brilliant surfaces with just a whisper of soft toning detected on the reverse. Rather well struck with some trivial spotting noted in the fields under low magnification.

Another Gem 1915-D Nickel



270 **1915-D MS-65 (PCGS).** Light gold toning over lustrous surfaces. *Especially well struck,* remarkable so fine, and a piece that is worthy of special consideration.

Third Gem 1915-S Nickel



271 **1915-S MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, and with an overly generous amount of eye appeal. The striking is not needle sharp, this being typical, but is decent for the 1915-S. Curiously, striking does not seem to enter much into certification numbers, nor does eye appeal. The present coin has a lot to offer, and we recommend it highly.



272 **1916 MS-66 (NGC).** A well-struck and lustrous specimen with nuances of gold toning over deep mint frost. Somewhat matte-like surfaces, reminiscent of a Matte Proof.



273 **1916 Struck 10% off center. MS-65 (NGC).** Lustrous golden gray with excellent visual appeal. Misstruck to 11:00 by a significant margin, with the date and LIBERTY full but the feather tops and the bottom of the denomination crowding the rim. A visually impressive error in excellent grade.

Gem 1916-S Buffalo Nickel



274 **1916-S MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. Above average strike. Scarce at the gem level.



275 **1917-D MS-64 (PCGS).** A lustrous specimen, *above average in strike,* with a great deal of eye appeal. It takes a degree of connoisseurship to sort out *quality* from offerings of certified coins, and anyone with an eye for such would do well to stop right here and bid.

Gem 1918 Buffalo Nickel



276 **1918 MS-66 (PCGS).** A satiny gem with traces of soft golden toning creating a minor woodgrain effect. Some minor striking weakness is seen at the bison's shoulder, not an unusual occurrence for the date, while the horn and tail split are fully defined. A lustrous gem with good aesthetic appeal and exceeded in grade by precious few pieces seen by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 28; 6 finer (MS-67 finest).

277 **No Lot.**



278 **1918-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Somewhat subdued lustre with medium golden toning. A few flecks here and there. Lightly struck at the centers, this being typical for 1918-D (but rarely ever mentioned).



279 **1918-S Struck 15% off center. AU-50 (PCGS).** A highly significant error on an elusive date. Deep golden gray with some lustre and a few minor obverse hairlines. Aligned just left of precisely 6:00, only the top of the 8 remains on the planchet, making this the most off-center this type can be to the 6:00 position while still retaining the all-important date! Abundant unstruck planchet remains beneath the mintmark and denomination. A tiny planchet lamination is noted across the tops of the feathers. An eye-popping error and one that will be chased by specialists.

Choice 1919-D Nickel

Lustrous Mint State



280 **1919-D MS-64 (PCGS).** A choice piece, light silver surfaces with gold toning. Typical or slightly above average strike. Decent eye appeal.



281 **1919-D MS-63 (PCGS).** Lustrous with medium iridescent toning, predominantly gold, but with splashes of magenta and green. Above average strike in most areas. Scarce at the Mint State level.

Key 1919-S Buffalo Nickel



(2x photo)

282 **1919-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Bright and brilliant with light golden toning with a few hints of brown. Above average in strike, but not needle sharp (this date hardly ever is). A coin with a commanding presence, possessed with a great deal of old fashioned eye appeal.

Another Notable 1919-S Nickel



(2x photo)

283 **1919-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant and frosty with just a hint of champagne toning. Above average in strike, but not needle sharp. Highly important at this grade level.

On the obverse there are two die cracks extending from the left border through the top feather, the bottom crack continuing to above the top of the braid.

Gem 1920-D Buffalo Nickel

Condition Census Quality



(2x photo)

284 **1920-D MS-65 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen comfortably nestled among a few dozen others at the MS-65 level, with only a single piece finer. Although this 1920-D is fine from a certification number standpoint, it is even better in terms of eye appeal—offering lustre, delicate toning, and above average strike. The consignor of most of the Buffalo nickels in the present sale was a connoisseur *par excellence*, and participants in the sale are the beneficiaries.

285 **1920-D MS-62 (PCGS).** Rich lustre with light golden toning. Scarcely a sign of circulation, but perhaps graded MS-62 because of the light strike, particularly evident on the reverse. It is difficult to decipher when strike is factored into grading and when it is not, as there are many gems (MS-65 and higher) that are lightly struck. In any event, this piece is about as nice as when it was coined, save for delicate toning.



286 **1920-S MS-63.** Lightly cleaned. Lustrous surfaces with delicate gold toning. Quite attractive overall, as even a quick glance will verify.

The obverse die is cracked for much of the distance across, beginning from the left and extending to the Indian's cheek. The die alignment is about 220° instead of the normal 180°. For the Buffalo specialist this may represent a particularly interesting variety.



287 **1921 MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny lustre with hints of golden orange at the peripheries. An attractive gem, with a few minor hairlines seen below the bison.

Gem 1921-S Buffalo Nickel

Two Feathers Variety



(2x photo)

288 **1921-S MS-65 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen that virtually sweeps away others we have seen on the market recently—combining high certified grade with rich lustre, delicate golden toning, and above average strike. For a long time the 1921-S has been a key to the series, scarce in all grades, and seldom seen at the gem level. The present piece is indeed a *find*, and special mention should be made that it is the two feathers variety.

Choice 1923-S Buffalo Nickel



289 **1923-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Lovely example of a key issue, this 1923-S offers high certified grade, rich lustre, attractive golden toning, and above average striking quality. The present section of the sale, largely from a connoisseur, offers the specialist the chance to fill in some seldom seen pieces of quality, while anyone contemplating beginning this interesting series can get off to a running start.

Choice Mint State 1923-S Nickel



290 **1923-S MS-64 (NGC).** Medium golden and iridescent toning over surfaces that are significantly above average in striking quality (although not needle sharp). Traditionally considered one of the scarcer varieties in the series.



291 **1924-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous with nuances of magenta and gold toning. About typical strike, light in some areas, sharp in others, but with overall superb eye appeal. A lovely coin for this date and grade.

292 **1924-D MS-63.** Rich deep lustre is overlaid with very light toning. A few flecks are seen here and there. The striking is not needle sharp (nor is it ever for 1924-D), but the present piece is certainly finer than average. No doubt it will soon occupy an appreciated spot in a fine collection of this denomination.

Highly Important Choice 1924-S Nickel



(2x photo)

293 **1924-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous with a suggestion of golden toning, and nuances of electric blue. Again, a piece with

extraordinary eye appeal, an aspect that definitely should be considered when placing bids, as coins in the marketplace range from unattractive to beautiful, the last defining the present offering.

294 1924-S VF-30 (NGC). Silver gray surfaces. A scarce mintmark issue.

Lovely Gem 1925 Buffalo 5¢



295 **1925 MS-66 (PCGS).** A lovely gem example with satiny and particularly bold lustre highlighted by delicate rose iridescence. Although slight softness is noted on the high points of the Indian's portrait, the peripheral details, including the date and LIBERTY, are bold. Just one example has been certified finer by PCGS, and the aesthetic appeal of this example is particularly bold.

PCGS Population: 92; 1 finer (MS-67).

Richly Lustrous 1925-D Nickel

Choice Mint State



296 **1925-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous surfaces are accented with gold on the obverse and wisps of blue on the reverse. The strike is above average, with most of the fur details of the buffalo's head visible (a key point for quick inspection). Not easy to find thus.

Second Choice 1925-D 5¢



297 **1925-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous with a few splashes of iridescent toning. About a typical strike, but with far from typical beauty—it is really gorgeous!

Lustrous 1925-S Nickel



(2x photo)

298 **1925-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant with hints of golden toning. Significantly above average in strike. Superb eye appeal. A coin that is certainly a "high end" example at the MS-64 level. If all MS-64 coins were this nice, there would be no need to look for MS-65!

Lovely 1925-S Nickel

Choice Mint State



(2x photo)

299 **1925-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous with light golden toning on both sides. About a typical strike, with some lightness on the obverse (in particular), better on the reverse.

Choice 1925-S Nickel



(2x photo)

300 **1925-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous surfaces characterize the obverse, with a hint of golden toning. The reverse is similar but with a bit more golden toning and a hint of blue. The striking is about typical for 1925-S.

301 **Quartette of Buffalo nickels:** ☆ 1926 MS-64. Lustrous golden surfaces ☆ 1930 MS-65. Satiny lustre with hints of golden rose on both surfaces ☆ 1930-S MS-65. Mixture of faint iridescent rose, gold, and sky blue on both surfaces ☆ 1935-S MS-65. Splashes of pale golden rose and sky blue over lustrous surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

Exceptional 1926-D Nickel
Above Average Strike



(2x photo)

302 **1926-D MS-66 (PCGS).** Lustrous with light golden toning. A significantly above average strike, this piece is not needle sharp, but still it is far finer than usually seen—most are weak, shallow, and with irregular definition, particularly on the reverse. This coin will satisfy the connoisseur who wants something more than simply a high-grading number. To our eye, this piece is more desirable than one graded MS-67 or MS-68, but weak.

Attractive 1926-D Buffalo Nickel



(2x photo)

303 **1926-D MS-65 (PCGS).** Light magenta and blue toning over richly lustrous surfaces. A splendid example of the 1926-D Buffalo nickel, not needle sharp, but significantly above average, enough to say that it is in the top 10% of those we have seen. Lightness is evident at the centers, but as noted, the vast majority of 1926-D nickels are nearly as flat as a pancake, and often mushy as well—the present piece must be hailed as being quite special.

Key 1926-S Buffalo Nickel



304 **1926-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous, with virtually full original frost. Light gray toning on both sides. A deep brown fleck is seen on the forehead. The 1926-S is very scarce in all grades, with pieces in even EF and AU levels being highly important. The present piece is worth careful consideration.



305 **1927-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Boldly lustrous with mostly brilliant surfaces highlighted by soft champagne overtones. Well struck with the point of the horn defined, but the dies were well worn and the most peripheral details show much softness.

Splendid 1927-S 5¢ Rarity



306 **1927-S MS-64 (NGC).** Lustrous and attractive. Brilliant with very light iridescent toning, the last consisting of blue, magenta, and gold. Somewhat above average strike. The 1927-S is one of the key issues in the series.

Lustrous 1927-S Nickel



307 **1927-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous with light golden toning. Far above average strike, although not needle sharp. The advanced collector will recognize this as being a very special example of the 1927-S, worth significantly more than a run of the mill MS-63. Slow up, stop, and bid!



308 **1928 MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, and quite well struck. A *definitive* example for quality, one that will undoubtedly land in an advanced collection and stay there for a long time!



309 **1928-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Light golden toning over richly lustrous surfaces. Far above average strike. A nice example of this issue.

Superb Gem 1936 Nickel

Satin Finish Proof



(2x photo)

310 **1936 Satin Proof-68 (NGC).** A superb specimen, needle sharp strike, with rich matte-like satiny Proof lustre. This is from the first production of Proofs for 1936, the finish being different from the later run. Many numismatists consider this issue to be collectible in its own right as a separate variety. Certainly this is one of the nicest in existence.

NGC Census: 16; 1 (Proof-68★). 4800

Brilliant Proof 1936 Nickel 3000



(2x photo)

311 **1936 Brilliant Proof-67 (PCGS).** A lovely Proof of the second style of the 1936 year, with mirrorlike surfaces. Light golden toning. About as perfect as we have ever seen.

Interesting 1936-D "Leg" Variety



312 **1936-D 3-1/2 Legs. FS 0019. EF-40 (NGC).** This interesting variety, catalogued by Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton as 0019, is sometimes called the 3-1/2 Legs variety. The right foreleg of the quadruped is not missing (as on certain 1937-D nickels) but is not complete either. An elusive variety for the specialist.

Superb Gem 1937 Nickel

Mirror Proof

4000



(2x photo)

313 **1937 Proof-68 (NGC).** A Proof with mirror fields, that is in the relatively small area of field on this design. A splendid example, one of the finest certified.

NGC Census: 30; 1 finer (Proof-68★).

Incredible 1937-D 3-Legs Nickel

Lustrous Gem



25K

(2x photo)

314 **1937-D 3-Legged. MS-65 (PCGS).** An incredible specimen, full gem quality, lustrous with light blue toning. Quite well struck in addition. One of the nicest we have ever seen.

PCGS Population: 38; 4 (MS-66 finest).

Second Remarkable 1937-D 3-Legged Nickel

Gem Mint State

32K



(2x photo)

315 **1937-D 3-Legged. MS-65 (PCGS).** This is a remarkable specimen of the fantastically popular 1937-D with just three legs to the buffalo. While quite a few thousand exist in worn grades, and Mint State pieces, while rare, are not impossibly so, at the gem level here is a rarity. Over a long period of time we have seen just a few comparable examples.

Another Gem 1937-D 3-Legged 5¢



(2x photo)

316 **1937-D 3-Legged. MS-65 (NGC).** Incredibly, here is another gem, a fantastic coin, another remarkable opportunity. After this, it may be a long time for us until another is offered.

16K

Remarkably, it was not until about 20 or 30 years ago that even MS-60 coins could be found with ease. Prior to the 1970s the best available grade, generally speaking, was AU. Some Mint State pieces have come on the market since then, but the vast majority are significantly below this and the preceding lots.



317 **1937-D 3-Legged AU-58 (NGC).** An attractive example, lustrous with medium golden toning, of this famous curiosity.

Extraordinary Grade 1938-D/S Nickel

Famous "Overmintmark"

16K



(2x photo)

318 **1938-D/S Buffalo. MS-68 ★ (NGC).** Richly lustrous with vivid iridescent toning, this 1938-D/S Overmintmark is the highest graded by NGC.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the designation.

Gem 1938-D/S Nickel



319 **1938-D/S Buffalo. MS-67 (NGC).** Brilliant with rich golden toning. Highly lustrous. Another nice example of this famous overmintmark in a grade not often seen.

HALF DIMES

When a choice MS-64 1794 half dime is the first of the denomination to hit the auction block, you know you're in for a treat! Follow that up with a gem MS-66 1797 16 Stars half dime from the Eliasberg Collection, then follow that with choice AU half dimes from 1800, 1801, and 1805! Next comes gem Mint State Capped Bust half dimes followed by a selection of Liberty Seated half dimes in superb Mint State and Proof grades. While this is by no means a large offering of these little silver beauties, it is certainly one which will excite collectors desiring a type coin as well as specialists who are closing in on that one certain date that has eluded them for so long! All half dime photos are 2x.

Exceptional Grade 1794 Half Dime

LM-2, Choice Mint State

Condition Census Challenger

34K



320 **1794 Logan McCloskey-2, Valentine-2. Rarity-5. MS-64 (PCGS).** A lovely Mint State coin, high on the PCGS roster, closely approaching Condition Census. The obverse is superbly struck, one of the nicest seen of this year, with excellent hair detail in nearly all areas, sharp star centers, excellent dentils, sharp letters, and sharp numerals. The toning is medium gray with gold and magenta. On the reverse the striking is also excellent, with feather outlines visible on the eagle's breast, feather details in all areas of the wings except the upper left, good botanical features in the wreath, excellent letters, and good dentils. The toning is somewhat similar to the obverse. Both sides have abundant mint frost.

PCGS Population: 11; 7 finer (MS-65 finest).

Although 1794-dated dies were prepared at the Mint for half dimes, these were not used until 1795. So, while no half dimes were minted in 1794, the fact remains that there are 1794-dated half dimes to be collected.

Another Attractive 1794 Half Dime

LM-2, EF-45



321 **1794 LM-2, V-2. Rarity-5. EF-45 (NGC).** Another attractive example of this variety of the 1794 half dime, the earliest date of the issue in the series, and thus the first appearance of the Flowing Hair design. The obverse and reverse are pleasingly toned a combination of light gray and lilac, with a few splashes of gold.

Gem Mint State 1797 Half Dime

16 Obverse Stars

Top of the NGC Census

The Eliasberg Coin



100K

322 1797 LM-2, V-4. Rarity-4. MS-66 (NGC). A fantastic rarity, from the Eliasberg Collection, now at the very top of the NGC Census, with not a peer in sight and none above. In the Eliasberg offering, 1996, this was described as follows:

> Significantly weak among the central details. The weakness is due no doubt to the very late die state described below. Light golden toning over highly lustrous silver surfaces. Very minor adjustment marks are visible on the reverse.
>
> This variety is slightly more available in *worn* grades than the previous V-3 combination, however the superb gem offered here must be considered of the highest rarity. We won't guarantee this to be the finest known, although we would certainly like to see a nicer one!
>
> Die state: both dies show extremely heavy clash marks. The obverse die crack described in the previous lot is slightly advanced. The reverse has die cracks in and around ED. A crack from the rim through the center of E (UNITED) joins a leaf below. A branch from this crack passes above E to the top of D and on to a leaf tip between D and S. A short crack connects this branch with the right top of E. An additional crack from the border to the upper right curve of D joins the branch crack at this letter.

Characteristic of the rare coin market is that collections tend to cycle through several owners, in sharp contrast to art and autographs, where many choice items go to museums and stay there. Still, it is often the situation that a coin from the Eliasberg Collection or another remarkable cabinet will go into another fine holding and remain there for a generation. Indeed, in the Eliasberg offering in 1996 there were some coins that had been off the market for a century (having traced their pedigree to the John M. Clapp Collection in the 1890s).

Among half dimes, the 1796-1797 is the rarest of the design types, this being true in all grades. The following type, 1800-1805 with Heraldic Eagle reverse, would be rarer in Mint State were it not for a number of the 1800 date existing at this level (those from 1801 to 1805 are impossible to find so choice).

When Jim Ruddy was gathering illustrations for his *Photograde* book in the late 1960s he found that half dimes of the 1796-1797 type were the most difficult to locate across a wide range of grades, even more so than certain silver issues, including the rarer but related 1796-1797 half dollar.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, Lot 899. Earlier pedigree unclear, but probably includes Scott's 130th sale, December 1894, the Wilson Sale, 1906, or the Harlan P. Smith Sale, June 1906, all of which are listed in the Clapp notebook but none can be specifically tied to the example offered in the Eliasberg auction.

Important 1800 Half Dime

Lustrous AU

First Year of Type



323 **1800 LM-1, V-1. Rarity-3. AU-53 (PCGS).** A lovely example of the first year combining the Draped Bust obverse with the Heraldic Eagle reverse, this half dime will be a pleasing addition to a choice collection. The surfaces are lilac overall with some accents of gray in the recessed areas. The striking is sharp in some areas and light in others, but overall is considerably finer than typically seen on the later dates of this design (extending through 1805).

Important and Rare 1801 Half Dime

Remarkable Strike and Appearance



324 **1801 LM-2, V-1/2. Rarity-4. AU-58 (NGC).** Although from the standpoint of the assigned grade this 1801 half dime is desirable enough, the present specimen transcends that in view of its significantly finer than average strike. While half dimes dated 1800, the first year of the Draped Bust obverse in combination with the Heraldic Eagle reverse, are usually fairly sharp in most areas, that is not at all true for the later dates of the type, 1801-1805. The present coin is very well detailed on the obverse, with most hair strands being defined and with excellent stars, some exceptions, but minor. There is a small cud at the dentils below the drapery to the right, and some filling of the dentils on the right border, characteristic of the die state. A clash mark can be seen in front of Miss Liberty's neck. On the reverse the striking is equally remarkable, with excellent details in nearly all areas. Some filling of the dentils is seen on the reverse. Lustre is seen on both sides, most prominent on the reverse.

The half dime specialist will want to contemplate this offering carefully and bid liberally.

NGC Census: 2; 4 finer (MS-67 finest).

Landmark 1805 Half Dime

Superb AU Grade

The Eliasberg Coin



325 **1805 LM-1, V-1. Rarity-4. AU-55 (NGC).** Among half dimes of the 1800-1805 type, all range from rare to very rare, except for the first year, 1800. The 1805, as offered here, is hardly ever seen in grades finer than VF, and even VF pieces are elusive. This is the Eliasberg Collection coin, described in 1996 as:

Extreme localized weakness as always seen on genuine specimens. The bust is completely flat with the clouds, stars, and legend weak or missing opposite the bust, due to opposing recesses in the obverse and reverse dies. The O in OF is not visible. Light ivory lustre with darker toning including a large dark toning area over the hair ribbon, left field, and stars 4 through 6. The reverse is very attractive light ivory. A few very minor abrasions are noted.

"The characteristics of strike on this coin are typical of virtually every one of the 100 or so 1805 half dimes existing. In his *Complete Encyclopedia,* Walter Breen noted the existence of only one Uncirculated example followed by about seven grading Extremely Fine. The currently offered example is certainly among the top half dozen known examples of these popular issues.

For the specialist this represents an opportunity to acquire a delightful combination of a rare date, high grade, and incomparable pedigree.

NGC Census: 3; 3 finer (MS-64 finest).

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, May 1996, Lot 907.

Prooflike Gem 1831 Half Dime



326 **1831 LM-4, V-4. Rarity-2. MS-66 PL (NGC).** A splendid specimen with prooflike surfaces, deeper on the obverse than on the reverse. Intensely mottled blue and magenta toning. Sharply struck.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the designation.

"Gemmy" 1833 Half Dime



327 **1833 LM-4.1, V-3. Rarity-2. MS-65 (NGC).** A lovely half dime combining the justifiably high certified grade of MS-65 with decent strike (almost needle sharp, but not quite), deep, rich lustre, and with artistic natural toning. These factors come together to create a coin that stands high among those graded MS-65 in the market. As such, it is ideal for consideration for a type set, as well as acquisition by the half dime specialist.

Gem Mint State 1837 Half Dime
Vivid Iridescent Toning



328 **1837 Liberty Seated, No Stars, Large Date. MS-65 (PCGS).** Vivid blue-green iridescent toning over lustrous surfaces, with some splashes of gold. An ideal example for the growing number of numismatists who enjoy attractive patination.

In 1837 and at the New Orleans Mint in 1838 (1838-O), half dimes and dimes were made of the Liberty Seated type without obverse stars, copying the illustrious silver dollar of 1836 by Christian Gobrecht. The absence of stars gives these pieces an attractive cameo effect, perhaps causing the viewer to wish that stars had not been added soon afterward. In any event, the type was short lived, causing great demand for it today.

329 **1837 Liberty Seated, No Stars. Repunched 7. MS-63.** Deeply lustrous surfaces with light iridescent toning. A lovely coin which bespeaks quality sometimes seen at the *MS-65 level,* but not always even then. An in-person inspection of this piece will reveal a coin that has needle-sharp details, deep rich lustre, and attractive toning—the latter being about as artistic as can be imagined. Here, indeed, is a very *special* example of this issue.

Considering both half dimes and dimes with this design, the half dime is much more available in Mint State, as here, than is the dime. Still, in view of the great desire to own such pieces the appearance of a coin such as this will attract a lot of attention.

4000

Gem 1838 Half Dime



330 **1838 No Drapery. MS-65 (NGC).** Gray and electric blue surfaces with some areas of light gold and magenta, over well-struck features. A nice example of the first year with stars on the obverse. Similar to all, there is no drapery at the elbow, thus constituting a distinct type.

Superb Gem 1849 Half Dime
Condition Rarity



331 **1849 MS-68 (NGC).** An intensely toned coin with vivid magenta, blue, and gold hues on both sides. Condition Census within the NGC Census.

NGC Census: 1; none finer. 7500

Superb Gem 1858 Half Dime



332 **1858 MS-67 (NGC).** Highly lustrous with delicate golden toning. Exceptionally high grade. The obverse and reverse dies have clashed, producing some very interesting characteristics in the field, as viewed under magnification. Near the drapery at Miss Liberty's elbow can be seen a clear E transferred from DIME on the reverse, this being one of many indications of that die striking event.



333 **1858 MS-65 (PCGS).** Lustrous surfaces with light gray and iridescent toning on both sides. An attractive example in a particularly high grade.

Marvelous Gem 1859 Half Dime

Proof-67



334 **1859 Repunched Date. Proof-67 (NGC).** A marvelous specimen combining a high grading number with a nice pedigree, that of Phil Kaufman, who was a connoisseur of early Proof issues.

The surfaces are deeply mirrorlike overlaid with golden toning at the center segueing to magenta, then to blue and gold, the ever-popular "album toning" so desired today. Half dimes of the 1859 year are a sub-type in themselves, with some slight differences in the figure of Miss Liberty, not used in earlier dates. To see this coin is to want to own it!

From the Phil Kaufman Collection.

Gem Proof 1859 Half Dime

A Unique Variety Year



335 **1859 Repunched Date. Proof-65 (NGC).** A lovely example with iridescent toning over mirror surfaces. A tiny planchet flake is seen in the right obverse field.

The NGC label incorrectly states that this is a dime, when it is, in fact, a half dime.



336 **1859-O MS-65 (NGC).** An item for the connoisseur, this particular Mint State 1859-O half dime is far nicer than typically seen for this grade and mint. The obverse is lustrous and frosty, light gold at the center, changing to blue at the rims. The reverse is a mixture of magenta and blue. Details are well struck, and the overall effect is quite pleasing.

NGC Census: 10; 4 finer (MS-67 finest).

T2000

DIMES

Early dimes? How about a choice example of the first year of the denomination, 1796, followed by a 1797 13 Stars and a 1798/7, both in high grade, and the John J. Pittman MS-64 1798? Mix in Pittman's 1804 13 Stars Reverse in choice AU, then follow them all with a gem MS-66 1805 4 Berries, and you get an idea of where this offering is headed! A choice MS-64 1809 Capped Bust dime from the first year of the design type is here, as are many other dates within the type in high and desirable grades. Liberty Seated design types are represented by a Proof 1837 from the first year of the type, and other rarities in various grades appear as well, including a choice Uncirculated 1856-S. Many other rare and desirable issues are included, among them *Mint State* examples of the 1871-CC, 1872-CC, and 1874-CC rarities! We'd be remiss if we didn't mention the wealth of Barber dime rarities included here. A gorgeous MS-66 1895-O is featured, along with a MS-65 1896-S and an 1897-O in the same grade. Mercury dimes include a nearly complete set of coins that lacks just the 1945 issue, and runs the grading gamut from VG up to Mint State (in the later years). A 1921 in MS-64 is followed immediately by a 1921-D in MS-65 FB! The Mercury offering ends with a trio of 1942/1 and 1942/1-D overdates. To think so much excitement could be stirred up by "one thin dime" (or, in this case, a score or more of "thin" dimes)!

Key 1796 Dime

John Reich-2



(2x photo)

337 **1796 John Reich-2. Rarity-4. Net EF-45, sharpness of AU-58.** Offered as net EF-45, this coin is sharper, as indicated, but shows a small repair at the rim near star 7. In-person inspection is recommended. The striking sharpness is excellent on both sides and *other than the repair,* the piece is very handsome.

Rare 1797 13 Stars Dime



(2x photo)

338 **1797 JR-2. Rarity-4. 13 Stars. AU-58.** A lovely coin, well struck in most areas, and with a bold and handsome appearance. Both obverse and reverse have full dentils, especially prominent on the obverse, serving to frame the design. Abundant mint lustre is visible in protected areas. Dimes of the 1796-1797 style with Draped Bust obverse and Small Eagle reverse are quite elusive, the 1797 being the rarer of the two dates.

Memorable 1798/7 Overdate Dime

Condition Census Quality



(2x photo)

339 **1798/7 JR-2. Rarity-5+. 13 Stars Reverse. AU-58 (PCGS).** Light gray toning with splashes of blue and lilac characterizes both sides. Somewhat lightly struck at the centers, as usual for the variety. The overdate feature is bold. While the 1798/7 ranges from scarce to rare in all grades, at the level offered here it is high in the PCGS Population, with just one finer. The specialist in the field of American dimes will find this to be one of the most important opportunities in the present catalogue—a sale that is remarkable for the rarities it contains. Moreover, the 13 Star reverse, as here, is unpriced in the *Guide Book of United States Coins* at any grade over EF, verifying its elusive nature.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-62).

40000 duncan lee

Near Gem 1798 Dime

The Pittman Coin



(2x photo)

340 **1798 JR-4. Rarity-3. MS-64 (NGC).** Highly lustrous surfaces show pleasing golden toning and blue highlights over silver gray fields. Nicely struck and well detailed, good definition at centers of both sides, positively no marks or flaws of consequence. Late die state with a heavy crack downward between TY of LIBERTY to nose and another from Liberty's chin into field. An exquisite quality piece, finer than the EF James A. Stack coin of the same die state. A piece that would honorably fill a gap in a Mint State type collection, but may also be destined for an early dime variety collection of the first water.

NGC Census: 4; 1 finer (MS-65 finest).

From Barney Bluestone's 90th sale, December 1945, Lot 539; David Akers Numismatics' sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection, October 1997, Lot 536. The original Pittman lot ticket accompanies this lot.

341 **Group of early dimes:** ☆ 1801 JR-1. Rarity-4. Net VG-10, sharpness of F-12 with light porosity. Still a pleasing even gray ☆ 1821 JR-5. Rarity-3. VF-30, a few minor scratches ☆ 1823 JR-2. Rarity-5. VF-30. Rich iridescent blue and gold at the peripheries ☆ 1851 AU-50. Pleasing pastel overtones with rich olive-gray highlights. Good underlying lustre is seen ☆ 1874 Arrows. VF-35. Rose and silver gray at the peripheries ☆ 1886 MS-60. Deep olive-gray with hints of iridescent blue ☆ 1912-D MS-63. Deep rich mottled gold, rose, sea green, and silver gray on both surfaces ☆ 1913 AU-58. Deep rich silver gray at the peripheries ☆ 1915 AU-58. Frosty silver gray with iridescent highlights. (Total: 9 pieces)

Highly Important 1804 Dime

JR-1, 13 Stars on Reverse

The Pittman Coin



(2x photo)

342 1804 JR-1. Rarity-5. 13 Stars Reverse. AU-53 (PCGS). This lovely piece traces its pedigree to the John Jay Pittman Collection, sold by David Akers, and there described as:

> Five berries on olive branch. Sharply struck and well centered. Beautiful warm reddish-gold, violet and blue toning. Sharp nick on the obverse rim near the tip of the bust. There is one scratch running vertically from the eagle's neck through the horizontal lines of the shield, but the fields are otherwise quite clean. Stars 4, 5, 6 and 10 above the eagle are weak, the others quite sharp. As a variety, this is about twice as common as the 14 star variety. Both as a date rarity and as a condition rarity, the 1804 is the premier date of this type since it is unknown (either variety) in full Mint State. This is one of the finest examples known of the date and variety. Purchased by JJP for $61 from Barney Bluestone's 90th sale, 12/45, where it appeared as Lot 1341.

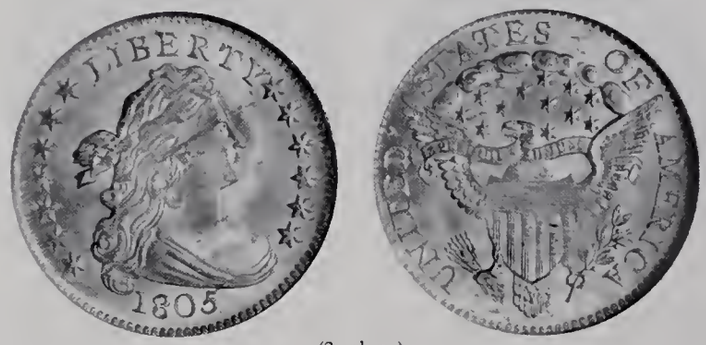
Today it has been certified, and within the ranks of the PCGS experience it is one of just two at this level, with not a single piece finer. For a long time the date 1804 has had a special cachet, and among the silver series the date is particularly well known.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

From Barney Bluestone's 90th sale, December 1945, Lot 1341; David Akers Numismatics, Inc.'s sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection, October 1997, Lot 541.

Incredible 1805 JR-2 Dime

Superb Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

343 1805 JR-2. Rarity-2. 4 Berries. MS-66 (NGC). Mint State coins of the elusive 1798-1807 type combining Draped Bust obverse with Heraldic Eagle reverse are always a compromise—one problem or another. Some, particularly toward the end of the series are very flatly struck, lacking much detail. The present coin is a pleasing exception and ranks high among the finest known of this general type and, even higher among those of this date and variety. Some planchet adjustment marks are seen on the obverse but are mainly hidden in the hair. The striking on the obverse is quite good, and the lustre is deep and rich—as nice as when made. Light toning overlays the entire surface, adding beauty.

The reverse is very well struck, exceptionally so, and is needle sharp save for just a few trivial areas. Again, the lustre is deep and rich and the toning is beautiful. Within the realm of dimes of this type, the present coin is truly *special.*

Splendid 1809 Dime

First Year of Type

Condition Census Quality



(2x photo)

344 1809 JR-1. Rarity-4. MS-64 (PCGS). A lovely example of the 1809 dime, the present piece is in exceptionally high grade, indeed Condition Census within the PCGS enumeration. Both obverse and reverse are deeply and richly lustrous, overlaid with light lilac and gray toning, evolving to hints of blue at the borders. At the center the striking details are exquisite, indeed marvelous. At the obverse border left and right the star centers are light, this being about par for the 1809 issue. All told it is a superior example of the date and type.

PCGS Population: 3; 4 finer (MS-66 finest).

John Reich was hired by the Mint to do contract work at the turn of the 19th century. In ensuing years he turned out some beautiful medals plus, possibly, some other dies not attributed today. In 1807 he was hired as an assistant to

Chief Engraver Robert Scot, in which position he remained until resigning in 1817. Today Reich is best remembered for his Capped Bust motif, as used here, first employed on the silver half dollar of 1807, later elsewhere. He also modified the copper and gold coinage of the era. Today his name is remembered by the John Reich Collectors Society (JRCS), a group of enthusiasts who appreciate not only Reich's coinage but the work of other engravers in the gold and silver series, dating back to 1794.

Mint State 1811/09 Dime



(2x photo)

345 **1811/09 JR-1. Rarity-3. MS-63 (PCGS).** Well struck except at the lower right of the reverse. Lustrous with mixed golden and gray toning, this is an exceptionally high-grade example of this interesting overdate. In the fields there are some dark streaking, occlusions in the planchet, which can be seen in the left obverse field and on the reverse. This is one of the finer examples to come on the market in recent times.

PCGS Population; 8; 5 finer (MS-66 finest).

Rainbow-Toned 1823/2 Dime



346 **1823/2 JR-1. Rarity-3. MS-62 (NGC).** A splendid specimen with lovely rainbow toning in the "halo" or "album toning" format, around the borders. Magenta and gold at the center changes to blue and yellow at the borders.

From David Akers' sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection, October 1997, Lot 553.

Iridescent AU 1824/2 Dime

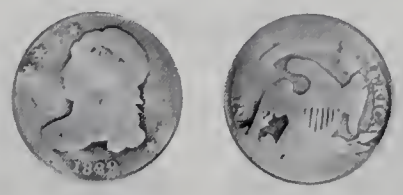


347 **1824/2 JR-1. Rarity-3. AU-58 (PCGS).** A highly lustrous example with light gray and iridescent toning, with hints of gold, blue, and magenta. A very attractive piece overall and in a grade not often seen. With a value, perhaps, in the $1,000 range, this piece illustrates how affordable truly rare United States coins can be once the Mint State level is left behind. The present coin represents a remarkable opportunity in our view.

PCGS Population: 3; 12 finer (MS-65 finest).

1700

1829 Curl Base 2 Dime



348 **1829 JR-10. Rarity-6. Curl Base 2. Fair-2 (PCGS).** An important offering of this rare variety that is seldom seen. Unfortunately, nearly all examples are very low grade, but on this positive side with respect to the present offering, the typical low-grade nature of the examples seen makes *every* example important regardless of condition! Heavily and unevenly worn, however, the key feature of the variety, the date with the curl base 2 is one of the sharpest details on the obverse. Only a handful of examples of this rare die combination have shown up since its discovery in 1973. A prize for the early dime specialist!

Extraordinary 1834 Capped Bust Dime

JR-5, Finest PCGS Grade



16000

(2x photo)

349 **1834 JR-5. Rarity-1. Large 4. MS-67 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen, the finest of the so-called Large 4 variety to fall under the eyes of the graders at PCGS. The obverse toning is, in a word, *vivid* and is mostly blue, accented with splashes of magenta. The striking is superb. The reverse is similarly well struck, but has a different schedule of toning, mottled magenta with occasional splashes of blue over satiny lustre. A piece of exceptional quality.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Choice Mint State 1834 Dime



350 **1834 JR-7. Rarity-2. Large 4. MS-64 (ICG).** Mottled lilac-gray toning over lustrous surfaces with splashes of bluish green and rose-gray.

Rare Proof 1837 No Stars Dime

Large Date



(2x photo)

351 **1837 Large Date, No Stars. Proof-61.** Upon first inspection the deep reflectivity of the smooth Proof fields immediately catches the eye, particularly on the reverse where the fields have been better protected by the devices. Up close, under magnification it is seen that the coin has been somewhat mishandled over the years and lightly cleaned in a misguided attempt at betterment, but this is not unusual for this issue in Proof (or for just about any early Proof as the toning that naturally occurred on these special pieces was not always seen as desirable and many early Proofs are heavily hairlined from cleanings). That said, the surfaces of the present piece are not as rough as sometimes seen and good eye appeal remains. As noted earlier the fields retain nice reflectivity. The majority of the obverse is brilliant silver, while deep olive-brown has formed around the periphery, and below Liberty. The reverse is about 75% toned deep gray with areas of bright silver showing through.

The diagnostics of the Proof issues as described in Breen's Proof *Encyclopedia* are clearly evident on this piece, namely the fine die line through (STAT)ES O(F), and a sharp spur from the rim over the first T in STATES. The Large Date is characterized by a flat top 3, and it is the only variety found in Proof.

The lot is accompanied by a Walter Breen letter that states: "It appears to be one of the initial 30 minted specially (not included in the regular mintage reports) as proofs and delivered to the secretary of Treasury..." Nearly all of these went to non-numismatic recipients, for very few unimpaired specimens exist today.

Accompanied by a Walter Breen letter.

Superb Gem 1839 Dime

Liberty Seated, No Drapery

Condition Census



(2x photo)

352 **1839 No Drapery. MS-67 (NGC).** Sharply struck at the centers, brilliant, and with a great deal of eye appeal, this beautiful piece will probably find its home in a type set. The detail is exquisite on the seated figure and the stars. There is some lightness of the dentils, as made, and on the reverse some striae from the die preparation process (indicating this must have been an early impression).

NGC Census: 16; 5 finer (MS-68★ finest)

Choice Mint State 1852-O Dime



353 **1852-O MS-64 (NGC).** A vividly toned example of this scarce issue with "halo" toning around the borders, iridescent with shades of electric blue and gold, changing to gold and silver at the centers. The strike is superb, and the overall aspect is quite pleasing, especially when the lively underlying lustre is factored into the equation. Just two 1852-O dimes have been graded finer than the present beauty by NGC, presenting yet another reason to actively pursue this coin. Need another reason? The *seateddimevarieties.com* website calls this date Rarity-6 in Uncirculated grades despite the sizeable mintage for the issue of 430,000 pieces. For the dime specialist this, indeed, is a *find.*

NGC Census: 11; 2 finer (MS-65 finest).

F-101. High sloping date, centered Large O mintmark.

The four-digit date logotype is too high on the die, with the top of the 1 about touching the base of Miss Liberty. Although 430,000 of this variety were minted, it is likely that most were melted, as they were worth more in silver or bullion value than face value.

Lustrous Gem 1853 Dime

Arrows at Date



(2x photo)

354 **1853 Arrows. MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant, sharply struck, lustrous, and with superb eye appeal, this coin is one of the finest we have ever seen at this level. Dimes of this type are not particularly rare in Mint State, even in MS-65, but most are rather casually struck and have poor eye appeal. The present coin is *remarkable* for its quality, and, in our view, deserves a bid far in advance of what a typical MS-65 coin might bring.



355 **1853 Arrows. MS-64 (PCGS).** Light gold and gray toning over lustrous surfaces. Fairly well struck, much more so than usual. A lovely example of the first of three years from this era with arrows at date.

Attractive 1853-O Dime
Among Three Finest Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

356 **1853-O Arrows. MS-64 (PCGS).** A largely brilliant and highly lustrous example of the 1853-O dime with arrows at date, a splendid piece with delicate golden toning. In Mint State this variety is seldom seen. For every 1853-O in this grade in numismatic hands there are at least *several dozen* of its Philadelphia Mint counterparts. One of only two examples of the date called MS-64 by PCGS, with but a solitary example graded finer by that firm. Choice Mint State quality is defined here!

PCGS Population: 2; 1 finer (MS-65).

357 **Pair of Liberty Seated dimes:** ☆ 1856 Large Date. MS-62. Lustrous with splashes of iridescent gray at the rims ☆ 1858-O AU-58. Mixture of olive-gray, gold, rose, lilac, and blue iridescence on both surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

Gorgeous 1856-O Dime
Repunched Date



358 **1856-O Repunched Date. MS-64 (PCGS).** Sharply struck, lustrous, brilliant, and with splendid eye appeal, this 1856-O offers anything and everything that the advanced discriminating buyer could hope to find. Beyond that, there is the appeal of a dramatically repunched date, with the off-register increasing to the last digit, below which is shown much of the earlier 6. Also, we note the present choice Mint State dime is among the 10 finest examples of the date certified by PCGS, not a mean accomplishment when one considers that nearly 1.2 million 1856-O dimes were struck!

PCGS Population: 7; 3 finer (MS-66 finest).

F-104. "56 Repunched up, Large O, die lines rim to UNITED."

Landmark 1856-S Dime
Choice Mint State



(2x photo)

359 **1856-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Sharply struck, brilliant, and beautiful. This 1856-S dime is one of the very finest in existence. Only 70,000 were struck in 1856, this being the first year that the dime denomination was produced at San Francisco. There is no record of even a single example being deliberately saved by a numismatist. Accordingly, virtually all have disappeared over the years, and most of the few survivors are well worn. The present coin is absolutely incredible in its importance and aspect, combining a numerical grade and, far more significant (in our opinion), absolutely commanding eye appeal. This certainly is a "must have" coin for an advanced collector!

PCGS Population: 2; 2 finer (MS-65 finest).

Seldom Seen Mint State 1858-S Dime



360 **1858-S MS-61 (ANACS).** Mottled medium silver, golden brown, and gunmetal-blue toning on well-struck surfaces. Lustrous. Mint State survivors from the production of just 60,000 pieces are seldom seen today. Indeed, most advanced specialized cabinets of Liberty Seated dimes over the years have not had a Mint State coin at any level. As Liberty Seated dime specialist Gerry Fortin noted at his website, *seateddimevarieties.com,*" 1858-S dimes are very scarce in any grade. In grades of VF or better, 1858-S dimes are more difficult to locate than either the 1856-S or 1859-S dates. This date is extremely rare in Mint State." Here, indeed, is another opportunity.

Seldom Seen 1860-O Dime Rarity
A Key to the Series



(2x photo)

361 **1860-O MS-60.** Cleaned at one time, this piece has since retoned and is a very attractive example of this incredible rarity, a key to the series, The obverse is brilliant, somewhat prooflike, with light toning and splashes of magenta. Some tiny scratches are seen between the two central date figures. The reverse is primarily lustrous silver with some areas of gold.

The 1860-O, representing the first year with UNITED STATES OF AMERICA on the obverse and the "cereal wreath reverse," of which only 40,000 were minted in New Orleans, has always been considered a prize. The present piece would be nicer, of course, if it were gem Mint State, but it is not. However, examination will reveal that is has a beauty all of its own and, of course, the rarity is unquestioned.

From RARCOA and David Akers Numismatics' Numisma 95 sale, August 1995, Lot 2110.



362 **1863 MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant and fully prooflike, so much so that if it were not certified as *Mint State* many might opt for a Proof designation. Silver surfaces with light golden toning. A splendid specimen of this low-mintage Civil War date. Only 14,000 dimes of the date were struck, a low-mintage trend that was seen in many of the denominations from the eastern mints during the Civil War era. Simply lovely, equally irresistible, and likely to draw serious bidding competition when it makes its appearance on the auction floor.

PCGS Population: 9; 14 finer (MS-66 finest).



363 **1863 MS-62.** A very sharp and particularly deeply struck example, seemingly made as a *Proof,* but this is a matter of opinion, and here it is classified as Mint State. Both obverse and reverse are highly prooflike, with wire rims on both sides. Some satiny lustre is seen at the center of the reverse. Perhaps this low-mintage issue is an early strike from polished dies. In any event, all features are bold and at this level, it is at once rare and desirable.

From RARCOA and David Akers Numismatics' Numisma 95 sale, August 1995, Lot 2115.

Elusive Mint State 1863-S Dime
Among Five Finest Graded by PCGS



364 **1863-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Pale gold and lilac highlights on lustrous, satiny surfaces. Nicely struck for the date with essentially full design elements present on both sides, a touch of weakness at Liberty's head defining the only area wanting in complete detail. Much scarcer in Mint State than its mintage of 157,500 pieces indicates, as much of the mintage saw intense use in commerce on the West Coast. In fact, the *seateddimevarieties.com* website indicates a Rarity-7 rating for the date in *any* Mint State grade. The PCGS *Population Report* shows just five examples of the date at MS-62, as here, or finer, with none of the finer pieces above MS-65. A notable sleeper in the series in Uncirculated, and a date that is highly desirable to those in the know; now, you're "in the know" as well!

PCGS Population: 2; 3 finer (MS-65 finest).

Low-Mintage 1864 Dime
Choice Uncirculated



365 **1864 MS-63 (PCGS).** A prooflike pale golden example of a popular and elusive low-mintage date. Strong underlying lustre adds greatly to the eye appeal, and the mintage for the date of just 11,000 circulation strikes also beckons would-be bidders. Nicely struck for the date (from lightly clashed dies), with just a tad of weakness in places in the reverse wreath. Fewer than 20 1864 dimes have been certified finer than the present choice Uncirculated coin, which backs up our claim of "elusive" where the date is concerned.

PCGS Population: 5; 17 finer (MS-67 finest).

Seldom Seen Mint State 1864-S Dime



366 **1864-S MS-63.** A lustrous example, Mint State, bright from a light cleaning. Sharply detailed and quite attractive overall. Indeed, most would simply call this "brilliant Mint State" without further comment.

This piece is one of the nicest 1864-S dimes we have ever seen. The issue is scarce at all levels, and is very rare in the preservation offered here.

From RARCOA and David Akers Numismatics' Numisma 95 sale, August 1995, Lot 2119

Key Date 1865 Dime
Choice Mint State



367 **1865 MS-64 (PCGS).** Light golden toning over sharply struck surfaces. Rich lustre. An outstanding example of this highly important issue, of which just 10,000 circulation strikes were made. In today's market coins that are certified less than MS-65 can offer *tremendous value* in terms of rarity and desirability. Contemplate the number minted, the number certified, and everything else, and you surely will agree.

PCGS Population: 4; 7 finer (MS-67 finest).

Superb Gem 1867 Dime
Among Dozen Finest Certified by NGC



(2x photo)

368 **1867 MS-66 (NGC).** Gorgeous halo iridescent toning over prooflike surfaces. Sharply struck. Another example of a Philadelphia Mint rarity, a variety of which just 6,000 circulation strikes were minted, the lowest regular issue mintage figure in the entire Liberty Seated dime series! Coins combining this high grade plus such exceptional eye appeal are seldom seen. In fact, just a dozen examples of the date have been called MS-66 or finer by NGC, with just three of those finer than the presently offered beauty. Whatever you pay for it you will have something after the sale that many seek but that few other people possess.

NGC Census: 9; 3 finer (MS-68 finest).

Another Remarkable 1867 Dime
Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

369 **1867 MS-66 (NGC).** Another gem Mint State specimen of the date, this embodying mottled iridescent toning over prooflike surfaces. Intense gold, vibrant magenta, and exciting electric blue dominate, and other shades are present in an enchanting manner. A gorgeously toned gem that will capture your attention as soon as you lay your eyes upon it! Struck from a broadly clashed obverse die. Good things often come in pairs in American Numismatic Rarities sales, and where else could you find two such rarities, both MS-66? If this were not enough, see the next lot!

NGC Census: 9; 3 finer (MS-68 finest).

Prooflike 1867 Dime Rarity



370 **1867 MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant and nearly completely prooflike. Some die striation, as made, and as seen on *all* Mint State pieces of this issue. A coin of incredible rarity and desirability, not certified quite as high as the preceding, but still truly remarkable and eminently desirable. Among the dozen finest examples of the date certified by PCGS, and worthy of note as such.

PCGS Population: 6; 6 finer (MS-67 finest).

Imposing 1867-S Dime
Gorgeous Mint State



371 **1867-S MS-64 (PCGS).** A coin of imposing, indeed commanding importance, Mint State, high grade, and beautiful. Light golden toning over rich lustrous surfaces.

Although 140,000 examples were struck of the 1867-S dime, there was no known numismatic interest at the time, not even the Mint Cabinet desired to save an example. Accordingly, most became lost or eventually melted. Today, relatively few Mint State pieces exist anywhere, and when they come on the market, they are typically not as fine as this lovely coin. Indeed, the present coin is easily Condition Census for the date—it's the only MS-64 1867-S dime seen to date by PCGS, and just one specimen of the date has been graded finer by that firm.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-65).

F-102. Die chip on Liberty's shin.

Impressive 1868-S Dime



372 **1868-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous surfaces with lavender toning. An impressive example of a coin which is quite scarce in Mint State and which is *rare* with this much eye appeal. We can be very thankful to the present consignor, a true connoisseur, for the marvelous offering of high-grade Liberty Seated dimes of this era, plus many other quality pieces throughout the catalogue. Fewer than 10 1868-S dimes have been called MS-64 or finer by PCGS, the present beauty resting high among those pieces.

PCGS Population: 7; 2 finer (MS-66 finest).

Famous 1871-CC Dime Rarity

Lustrous Mint State



(2x photo)

373 **1871-CC MS-62 (PCGS).** Medium golden toning over somewhat prooflike surfaces. A Mint State example, a very nice one, of the very first Carson City dime issue. Just 20,100 were minted, from which production only a few have survived today. Perhaps the importance of a specimen of the date in *any* level of Mint State is underscored by the fact that *A Guide Book of United States Coins* omits any pricing over the AU-50 level—and well it should, as the 1871-CC dime is one of the great rarities within the denomination, not just the design type, and that holds true for specimens in *any* grade! Further, the present coin is *one of just two examples of the date called Mint State by PCGS,* the other being MS-64. Beyond a doubt, the present piece is one of the most important opportunities in this catalogue, and we expect that serious Seated dime specialists will gather to test each other's bidding mettle when this prized rarity crosses the auction block!

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-64).



374 **1871-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant and highly prooflike surfaces, well struck, with gorgeous iridescent toning. One of the very nicest 1871-S dimes we have ever seen, never mind that some exist in higher grades. We suggest that you look at this piece during the lot viewing process, and if you do, we wouldn't be surprised if you were to submit a record bid. The coin is *that* nice! For the record, this beauty is among the 10 finest 1871-S dimes certified by PCGS—something to consider when you plan your bidding strategy.

PCGS Population: 5; 5 finer (MS-66 finest).

Incredible 1872-CC Dime Rarity

Sole Mint State Example Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

375 **1872-CC MS-61 (PCGS).** Among Liberty Seated dimes the 1872-CC is well known as a rarity, the variety being almost impossible to find in higher grades. Indeed, similar to the 1871-CC, the *Guide Book* omits any pricing over the AU level—these being two of only four Liberty Seated dimes in the entire series having no price in Mint State! Again, nice things come in pairs, and although there is only one 1872-CC, it joins with the preceding 1871-CC in being a truly remarkable offering. It might well be the case that *years* will lapse before a similar opportunity occurs.

Turning to the coin itself, it has medium gold and magenta toning at the center of the obverse, changing to splashes of gunmetal-blue and gold at the borders. The reverse has areas of blue and green at the center, then a band of magenta, then returning to blue and gold, "album toning," no doubt, from longtime storage in a "National" or similar holder.

If you are specializing in Liberty Seated dimes you certainly have the time and leisure to acquire the majority of the pieces in Mint State, in the grades that you desire. However, for others, such as the 1871-CC and 1872-CC, *opportunity* is more important than the price paid, and a chance missed may mean a coin lost forever. Over a long course of years the vast majority of specialized cabinets of Liberty Seated dimes have lacked each of these varieties in conditions similar to that offered here. Finally—not that you need more prompting—we note here that the present 1872-CC dime is *the only example of the date called Mint State by PCGS!*

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

376 **1873-S Arrows. AU-58 (PCGS).** Light heather toning over nearly full original mint lustre. Nicely struck and with imposing overall appearance. While the 1873-S is not a famous rarity, this combination of high grade, most original mint lustre, and great eye appeal offers much to the Liberty Seated specialist. Stop and consider it, for this piece will be very nice to own.

Superb Proof 1874 Dime

Arrows at Date

Condition Census



(2x photo)

377 **1874 Arrows. Proof-66 (PCGS).** One of the finest graded by PCGS, this lovely example illustrates the Liberty Seated dime with "cereal wreath" reverse and with arrows at date, made only in 1873 and 1874. The strike is excellent. The present piece has lilac, gold, and magenta toning, all nicely blended together with no one hue predominating, over deep mirror surfaces. Ideal to illustrate this variety in a type set.

PCGS Population: 8; 1 finer (Proof-67).

Breathtaking 1874-CC Dime

Condition Census Mint State

Key to the Series



(2x photo)

378 **1874-CC Arrows. MS-62 (PCGS).** Light lilac and heather over sharply struck letters and devices. A breathtaking example of yet another amazing Carson City dime, the second finest 1874-CC dime graded by PCGS, and one of relatively few examples of the date known at the Mint State level. Similar to certain earlier offerings, the 1874-CC is not priced at all in Mint State in the *Guide Book,* being one of just four dates to share this category (the others being 1871-CC, 1872-CC, and 1873-CC Arrows, the "big four," if you will, of the series). How remarkable it is that two of the other three are presented in this catalogue! Indeed, even a well-worn example of the present date, say VG or so, is still an offering of moment—to be sure, the offering of a *Mint State* 1874-CC dime is an event that is as rare as the coin itself! Rarity and high grade come together here to create yet another memorable offering.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-63).

Superb Gem 1879 Dime

Condition Census



379 **1879 MS-67 ★ (NGC).** A superb specimen ranking high in the Condition Census from a *numerical* viewpoint, this dime goes beyond this and is deserving of a blue ribbon in terms of *eye appeal.* The surfaces have a vivid but light iridescence, simply gorgeous!

NGC Census: 6; 3 finer (MS-68 finest).

Gem 1884-S Dime



(2x photo)

380 **1884-S MS-65 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous with light magenta toning over sharply struck surfaces. The present gem is the only 1884-S dime called MS-65 by PCGS, with just one example of the date deemed finer by that group. As pristine and beautiful as can be! To see this coin is to fall in love with it.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-66).

Dave Bowers' Newest Book from Whitman

Dave Bowers and his team of research associates have recently completed *The Official Red Book of U.S. Type Coins,* to be published by Whitman in 2005, further announcements to be made. A great deal of effort has been expended in digging out interesting details on the various designs, including such changes as the 1873-1874 With Arrows silver.

When this book becomes available we believe you will enjoy owning a copy, either acquired through American Numismatic Rarities or just about anywhere else—as it will be distributed nationally through coin dealers as well as in individual proprietorship and chain bookstores.

Gem Proof 1885 Dime

Top of the PCGS Ladder



(2x photo)

381 **1885 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant with frosty surfaces. The one and only piece graded by NGC at this level, none finer.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

Superb Gem 1885 Dime



382 **1885 Proof-67 (NGC).** Lightly mottled gold, magenta, and iridescent toning over deep mirrored surfaces. A planchet striation in left obverse field. A few flecks here and there. One of the finest graded.

Landmark 1885-S Liberty Seated Dime

Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

383 **1885-S MS-65 (PCGS).** A simply gorgeous specimen, light gold and magenta toning over rich lustrous surfaces, well struck, and with anything and everything else that could be desired. Among Liberty Seated dimes of this decade, the 1885-S stands out as a landmark rarity in Mint State, even in lower grades. True gems, such as this, are few and far between. Again, the word *opportunity* becomes more important than the price paid. Once you acquire this you can completely forget about ever looking at another 1885-S!

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-66).

Lovely MS-62 1885-S Dime



(2x photo)

384 **1885-S MS-62 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen, lustrous, with mottled gold toning. Nicely struck. A pleasing coin that will answer the wide call for this rarity. Not a gem, but certainly a piece with a generous measure of eye appeal. Unquestionably choice for the assigned grade—take a good, long look at this one!

PCGS Population: 1; 4 finer (MS-66 finest).

Superb Gem 1886 Dime



385 **1886 Proof-67 (ICG).** Gorgeous iridescent toning, magenta and electric blue, over deep mirrored surfaces. Frosted devices. A splendid specimen of this popular issue, ideal for a type set. Quality such as this is not often encountered.

386 1886 Proof-64. A lovely specimen with lavender centers changing to splashes of blue at the border, so-called "album toning" from, presumably, long term storage in a "National" cardboard album or similar. This type of toning is highly appreciated today and often lends value.



387 **1889-S MS-63.** Brilliant with satiny lustre. A nuance of golden toning. A nice example of this popular late-date Liberty Seated dime.

From RARCOA and David Akers Numismatics' Numisma 95 sale, August 1995, Lot 2422

388 **1894 MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant at the center changing to magenta and electric blue at the borders. A handsome piece of this quite scarce date, one of the keys among Philadelphia Mint dimes of the era. In recent times there has been a lot of excitement about pieces with special toning, and such an example is right here.

Incredible 1895-O Dime

Gem Mint State

Classic Rarity



(2x photo)

389 **1895-O MS-66 (PCGS).** Deep, rich lustrous surfaces are delicately toned light gold. The high grading number will nicely satisfy anyone and everyone into this type of evaluation, but far beyond that, in our opinion, the present piece has absolutely superb eye appeal. Indeed, in a long span of experience involving Barber coins, including multiple examples of the rare 1894-S, the cataloguer has seen only one or two of the 1895-O that can come close to this, and none exceeding it.

Of the 1895-O just 440,000 were struck, in an era in which probably no more than a half dozen people were interested in saving newly minted dimes by mintmark sequence. Indeed, Augustus G. Heaton's study, *A Treatise on Mint Marks* was scarcely two years old and had just begun distribution. Even after this pivotal work was widely held, specialists in mintmarks were few and far between. The extreme significance of the 1895-O is perhaps reflected by its valuation in G-4 grade listed at $300 in the current issue of *A Guide Book of United States Coins,* more than double the closest contender (the curious 1893/2 variety), and over four times as much as the next regular date and mint (the 1901-S $70). We have always felt that *foundational rarity*, or basic rarity of a coin in any grade, is what really determines a key issue. In our opinion this is one of the most essential aspects of coin valuation, especially in the long term. Some coins, even modern ones, can be *condition rarities* in some high grade or another, but can be very common if worn. When a key issue is rare from top to bottom in the grading scale it is rock solid. We need but point to such classics as the 1856 Flying Eagle cent, the 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln cent, or, for that matter, the 1836 Gobrecht dollar.

We have handled our share of coins, probably more than our share, and yet typically *several years* will pass between our offering of an 1895-O that combines gem Uncirculated technical number with superb eye appeal. Such an instance is now, bespeaking a great opportunity.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Important 1896-S Dime

Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

390 **1896-S MS-65 (NGC).** Light golden toning over lustrous silver surfaces, with splashes of gunmetal-blue, all this against needle-sharp details, creating an 1896-S that is at once rare and exciting. In recent years coins with splendid toning have been an increased focus of importance. In fact, on the internet various chat rooms are often occupied with lines of praise about toning on Morgan silver dollars, Franklin halves, and other issues that are in series that are available easily (although nicely toned specimens are in the minority in those series). There probably has never been a comment on a nicely toned 1896-S dime, simply because these are so rare. Indeed, this variety is one of the keys to the series and is desirable in any and all grades. The connoisseur may wish to bid enthusiastically on this coin, as it is deserving of such.

Superb Gem Proof 1897 Dime



391 **1897 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant with frosty surfaces. About as nice as can be!

NGC Census: 11; 4 finer within the designation (Proof-68 Cameo finest).

Memorable 1897-O Dime

Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

392 **1897-O MS-65 (PCGS).** Medium brown and gunmetal-blue toning with hints of gold, over well-struck details. Here is a truly splendid example of one of relatively few Barber dimes with a mintage of less than one million pieces, in the present instance just 666,000.



393 **1906-D MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant with satiny lustre. Well struck. A few scattered marks are seen here and there, typical of the grade. A splendid specimen from the first year of operation of the Denver Mint.

394 **Nearly complete collection of Mercury dimes, 1916 through 1945-S,** lacking only the 1945, with a duplicate 1945-D in its place. The 1942/41 overdates are also lacking. The set is very nicely matched and nearly all of the earlier dates average VG to Fine, including the 1916-D which is a solid Fine, but hairlined on the obverse from an old brushing. The 1921 issues are VG and Good, respectively. In the mid-1930s, the set begins to improve and most are Fine or VF, while the latest years include some Mint State pieces. A very attractive set for the grade range, housed in a Dansco album. (Total: 77 pieces)

395 **Pair of key date Mercury dimes:** ☆ 1916-D G-6. Soft iridescent blue green, gold, magenta, and rose on both surfaces ☆ 1942/1 VF-30. Faint rose-gray and lilac-gray toning. (Total: 2 pieces)

396 **1916-S Mercury. MS-65 FB (PCGS).** Mottled brown toning over silver gray surfaces, lustrous, and well struck. A piece that has never been dipped or brightened.

397 **Quintette of Mercury dimes:** ☆ 1918-D MS-64 ☆ 1923-S MS-64 ☆ 1925 MS-64 FB ☆ 1926 MS-63 FB ☆ 1929-D MS-65 FB. All are lustrous and attractive with a few displaying lovely champagne toning. (Total: 5 pieces)

Splendid 1918-S Mercury Dime



398 **1918-S MS-64 FB (PCGS).** Deeply and richly lustrous surfaces with gorgeous light toning. Sharply struck and beautiful. An elegant Mercury dime. There are a few contact marks on the cheek of Miss Liberty, and these no doubt keep it away from, say, MS-66 or MS-67. Here is a truly attractive coin, one worthy of careful examination prior to the sale.

399 **Quartette of Full Bands Mercury dimes:** ☆ 1920 MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous golden surfaces ☆ 1924 MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous with splashes of golden gray on the obverse ☆ 1931-D MS-66 (PCGS). Rose-gray with speckled gray ☆ 1935 MS-66 (NGC). Lustrous with hints of rose. (Total: 4 pieces)

Low-Mintage 1921 Dime

Choice, Full Bands



400 **1921 MS-64 FB (PCGS).** Lustrous and frosty, toned lightly mottled brown over silver surfaces, with some splashes of deeper brown. A piece that, remarkably, has never been dipped or brightened. Some lightness of detail is seen on the obverse rim in the lower part, typical for 1921 Philadelphia Mint dimes, but not important in terms of those seeking the coveted FB designation, for Full Bands, as the present piece is sharply struck in that feature. A key to the series, the 1921 registered the lowest mintage of any Philadelphia date of this design.

Gem 1921-D Dime

Full Bands



(2x photo)

401 **1921-D MS-65 FB (NGC).** Brilliant with light hints and splashes of golden brown and gunmetal-blue. Well detailed on obverse and reverse, exceptionally so, and a treat to the eye. One of the nicest 1921-D Mercury dimes we have seen, a fairly significant statement. In addition to the quality possessed by this specimen, it is further notable as having the lowest mintage of any date or mintmark in the Mercury dime series.

402 **Pair of PCGS-certified dimes grading MS-64:** ☆ 1923-S. Obverse with mottled bluish gray surfaces and splashes of iridescence at the rim, reverse with golden toning at the periphery ☆ 1924-D Full Bands. Bluish gray with golden toning at the peripheries. (Total: 2 pieces)

403 1924-D MS-64 FB (PCGS). Deeply rich and lustrous surfaces with light golden toning.



404 **1925-D MS-64 FB (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous satiny silver surfaces.

Sharp 1926-D Dime

None Finer Graded



405 **1926-D MS-66 FB (NGC).** Among Full Bands dimes of this date, none are graded finer by PCGS with only a few companions at this grade level. Both obverse and reverse have lovely lustre, satiny, with delicate gold toning. A treat to the eye. The specialist in Mercury dimes will want to bid liberally.

NGC Census: 6; none finer.

406 1926-D MS-64 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous with nearly full delineation of the bands.



407 **1928-D MS-65 FB (PCGS).** Brilliant, sharply struck (everywhere, not just on the bands), lustrous, and highly desirable. A gorgeous 1928-D that will fill the bill for any connoisseur interested in competing for it.

408 1928-D MS-64 FB (PCGS). Delicate golden gray over lustrous surfaces.

409 **1935-D MS-66 FB (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous with splashes of magenta and gold toning on both sides. Well struck.



410 **1938 Proof-67 (PCGS).** Brilliant with hints of iridescent toning around the obverse border and, on the reverse, a beautiful panorama of nicely blended iridescence. A splendid example of this popular Proof issue.



411 **1942/1 EF-45 (ANACS).** Silvery surfaces with significant lustre still remaining. Splashes of medium brown toning are seen here and there. A nice example at this grade level of one of the most popular of all 20th-century silver coins.

Seldom Seen 1942/1-D Dime

Lustrous Mint State



412 **1942/1-D MS-62 FB (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, and extremely attractive. A coin with a great deal of "life" to it. Although this is graded "only" MS-62, even a drive-by examination will reveal a coin that is splendid in its aspect, with overall eye appeal that can hold its own against pieces in the series graded two or more points higher. We invite you to verify this on your own. If you are looking for a 1942/1-D dime, a variety that is several times rarer than its Philadelphia cousin, and are seeking the grades of MS-62 *or MS-63, MS-64,* your search may well stop here.

413 **1942/1-D VF-25.** Mostly even light gray, with some deeper toning in the protected recesses. No major marks or distractions for the assigned grade.

TWENTY-CENT PIECES

Our present offering of twenty-cent pieces is "short and sweet," as the old saying goes, containing two choice AU 1875-CC coins, a gem MS-66 1875-S with repunched or "$" mintmark, and a gem MS-66 example of the 1876 date, the last year of the short-lived denomination to be produced for intended circulation. As we noted above, "short and sweet" is what we offer here!

414 **1875-CC AU-58.** This lovely specimen is a hair's breadth from full Mint State, so close that we suggest personal examination, as pieces no finer have sometimes been designated as high as MS-62. Check it out!

The obverse and reverse are highly lustrous, attractively toned, and present splashes of blue, gold, and magenta over silver surfaces. The striking is fairly good, significantly above average for 1875-CC, although there is some lightness at the very center of the obverse. Striking does not seem to be a factor in the purchase decision of 90% of buyers today, so mentioning this aspect may be moot. However, for those who care, it is worth noting that quite a few 1875-CC twenty-cent pieces are flatly struck, particularly on the reverse at the eagle's wing at the upper left.

415 **1875-CC AU-58.** Lustrous silver gray surfaces with a touch of golden toning mainly at the peripheries.

Notable Gem 1875-S Twenty Cents



(2x photo)

416 **1875-S Repunched Mintmark. MS-66 (PCGS).** Although the 1875-S 20¢ piece, with the largest production in the series, is not particularly rare, at the lofty designation of MS-66 the competition drifts away. Only a few dozen have been certified at this level or higher. Equally important, the present piece has rich satiny lustre, is brilliant, and is significantly above average in striking sharpness. Altogether this is a memorable specimen.

PCGS Population: 44; 3 finer (MS-68 finest).

Superb Gem 1876 Twenty-Cent Piece



(2x photo)

417 **1876 MS-66 (NGC).** Sharply struck and with medium gray, magenta, and gunmetal-blue toning over rich lustre, this ranks as an exceptionally nice 1876. This date is far rarer than the issues of 1875, but when seen is typically Mint State. However, the typical coin is not at the presently offered high level.

NGC Census: 24; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

QUARTER DOLLARS

If it's quarters you want, it's quarters we have! A highly collectable Fine-15 Draped Bust, Small Eagle 1796 quarter, the first year of the denomination and a one-year-only issue, starts our quarter dollar offering, with other dates among the Draped Bust, Large Eagle type following, many in Mint State. Among Capped Bust quarters a choice Proof-63 1825/3 rarity is included, and a choice Proof-64 1831 is also featured. Liberty Seated quarters include a Mint State 1842-O Small Date rarity and many other scarce to rare dates as well. We also offer two 1870-CC quarters in nice circulated collector grades, a choice MS-64 1871-CC, a MS-62 1872-CC, a choice AU 1873-CC Arrows, and a gem MS-65 1875-CC, the finest example of the date currently certified by PCGS! Among the Barber issues, a choice MS-64 1896-S stands tall as a highlight, and several other branch mint pieces, all of them of superb quality, make an appearance. Indeed, we offer not one but *two* gem MS-66 1913-S quarters! Standing Liberty quarters are represented in force with a 1916 in EF-45 and many other dates (and *overdates)* also offered. And finally, for the Washington quarter enthusiasts among us, there are more than enough key date issues in all grades to attract serious bidding interest.

Key 1796 Quarter Dollar

Only Year of Type



(2x photo)

418 **1796 Browning-2. Rarity-3. F-15 (PCGS).** Light gray surfaces, problem free, characterize this circulated example of one of America's most famous coins. Quarter dollars combining the Draped Bust obverse with the Small Eagle reverse were made only in this year and just to the extent of 6,146 pieces. Today this is on the "most wanted" list of many, and is a central element to a type set. The present piece will satisfy the demand at this grade level.

Attractive 1806 B-2 Quarter



419 **1806 B-2. Rarity-4. AU-50.** An attractive example with light silver surfaces. Some mint lustre remains in areas. A small depression is seen in front of the nose but no doubt was taken into consideration by the grading services. Typical strike for the issue, indeed a bit finer. An attractive example overall of this early quarter type.

420 **Group of quarter dollars:** ☆ 1806 AG-2 ☆ 1818 VF-35 ☆ 1834 VF-35, light hairlines ☆ 1854 Arrows. Net EF-45, sharpness of AU-55, cleaned ☆ 1861 AU-50 ☆ 1909 AU-55 ☆ 1917 Type I. AU-55 ☆ 1918 MS-63 FH ☆ 1926-D MS-64 ☆ 1937 Proof-63. (Total: 10 pieces)

Exquisite 1807 Quarter Dollar

Marvelous Strike



421 **1807 B-1. Rarity-2. AU-58 (PCGS).** The 1807 quarter dollar with Draped Bust obverse and Heraldic Eagle reverse usually is poorly struck, often *flat* in many areas, indistinct, and not at all attractive. The present piece is one of the finest we have ever seen of this date, is far above average in sharpness and is truly remarkable. To be sure, there is some lightness here and there, but it is scarcely worth mentioning. The quarter specialist who may have given up on finding a sharp example will want to contemplate this piece carefully. The portrait of Miss Liberty, who almost seems to be smiling, is especially well delineated, perhaps inviting a strong bid.

Mint State 1815 Quarter



422 **1815 B-1. Rarity-1. MS-61 (NGC).** Intense gray and magenta toning is seen over well-struck features. The 1815 is generally scarce in all grades, more so in Mint State.

NGC Census: 4; 32 finer (MS-67 finest).

423 **1818/5 B-1. Rarity-3. AU-50.** Some underlying lustre is seen, but the surfaces have been artificially toned in shades of iridescent blue green, gold, and rose.

Mint State 1818 Quarter

Browning 4



424 **1818 B-4. Rarity-2. MS-62 (NGC).** Deeply toned smoky gray surfaces with highlights of gold and soft blue, and some underlying lustre detected. Well struck and pleasing.

Splendid 1821 Quarter Dollar

Memorable Eye Appeal



(2x photo)

425 **1821 B-2. Rarity-3. MS-63 (PCGS).** A highly attractive and original 1821 quarter with rich silver gray lustre and overtones of soft gold and deeper gray mottled across the surfaces. Sharply struck with good definition of the details. Even the star centers are seen except for that of star 7 which is typically weak on this variety. A couple of old scratches are seen behind the head of Liberty, but these appeared long ago and have now nicely toned over. Still the originality and overall aesthetic appeal does much to make up for the faults. A lovely 1821 quarter nicely representing the large format Capped Bust type.

Choice Uncirculated 1821 Quarter



(2x photo)

426 **1821 B-5. Rarity-4. MS-64 (PCGS).** A highly attractive and original 1821 quarter with rich silver gray lustre and overtones of soft gold and deeper gray mottled across the surfaces. Sharply struck with good definition of the details. Even the star centers are seen except for that of star 7 which is typically weak on this variety. A couple of old scratches are seen behind the head of Liberty, but these appeared long ago and have now nicely toned over. Still the originality and overall aesthetic appeal does much to make up for the faults. A lovely 1821 quarter nicely representing the large format Capped Bust type.

Famous 1822 25/50C Quarter

Finest and Only PCGS Level

The Norweb Coin



(2x photo)

427 **1822 B-2. Rarity-5+. 25/50C. MS-61 (PCGS).** Among early quarter dollars it would be difficult to find a variety with a more interesting story than that offered here—the 1822 with error reverse. It seems like only yesterday, but it was 16 years ago in 1988 that this came under view of the cataloguer (QDB) and was described as:

> The value of Proof-60, but actually Proof-65, but with a dig in the lower left obverse field opposite the second star, and with scratches on the reverse near the left side of the motto.
>
> Proof impressions of this die are very curious, as the reverse is blundered—not the type of die one would normally associate with striking presentation coins. Walter Breen notes: 'It is extraordinary that this naked-eye blundered die would have been used to make Proofs.'
>
> During the die preparation process, the engraver apparently thought he was working on a half dollar, and punched the denomination as 50C. The error was discovered and the correct 25 digits were repunched. However, the erroneous earlier digits can be readily seen.

While catalogued as a Proof at that time, further research has led PCGS to term this a Mint State striking — a characterization with which we agree. Many of Walter Breen's theories on Proof coins have been questioned since that earlier era. The pleasing golden toning present at the time of the Norweb sale has remained and is as pretty as ever.

In the nearly a generation of time that has passed since the Norweb offering, early quarter dollars have become more popular than ever. This particular reverse die is an interesting indication of Mint practice. It was employed on the 1822 die, as here, then put on a shelf, and not used again until 1828, while in the meantime other reverses were employed. Studying the use and appearance of reverse dies of various denominations of this decade would be an interesting pursuit, including in the half eagle series.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Norweb Collection, March 1988, Lot 1537.

Proof 1825/3 Quarter
The F.C.C. Boyd Specimen



(2x photo)

428 **1825/3 B-2. Rarity-7. Proof-63 (ANACS).** AA splendid coin with a pedigree to match. Obverse and reverse are toned medium gold, with splashes of blue, over mirrored surfaces. The strike is needle sharp, indeed *definitive* for the design.

This coin was acquired sometime in the early 20th century by F.C.C. Boyd, later appearing in his holdings sold by Numismatic Galleries under the title of the "World's Greatest Collection," March 1945, Lot 86. The purchaser was Jerome David Kern, famous musician (*Smoke Gets in Your Eyes* is one of his many songs). In the sale of the Kern Collection, by B. Max Mehl, May 1950, this reappeared as Lot 1411.

Neither PCGS nor NGC has graded any Proof examples. Walter Breen, he of the "unhestitating" attributions, called this coin a Proof in his Proof Coin Encyclopedia but noted "the deceptive early strikes lack the central sharpness of real proofs." This piece shows a truly remarkable impression and has much to recommend it. For the quarter dollar specialist this represents a formidable opportunity!

From Numismatic Galleries' sale of the "World's Greatest Collection (F.C.C. Boyd Collection)," March 1945, Lot 86; B. Max Mehl's sale of the Kern Collection, May 1950, Lot 1411.

Magnificent Proof 1831 Quarter



(2x photo)

429 **1831 B-4. Rarity-7. Proof-64 (ANACS).** A truly splendid example of an early Proof, this piece is unequivocal in its attribution. The fields are fully mirrorlike on obverse and reverse, against which are set stars, portrait, date numerals, the eagle, and letters, all with exquisite definition of detail. The entire coin is lightly toned blue with hints of gold and magenta.

The circumstances of striking this coin have not been recorded, but it was likely produced for inclusion in a Proof set of the year. The 1831 is particularly significant as it is the *first year of the type.* This design is characterized by having a smaller diameter than preceding, different styling of the dentils and other features, and without the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM on the reverse.

The writer has come across several interesting accounts concerning the release of these pieces. Some entrepreneurs of criminal intent removed the 2 and the C from the reverse, leaving the solitary digit 5 below the eagle, after which the coins were gold plated and passed off as $5 pieces. This caused quite some excitement at the time.

The following commentary may be of interest, as it reflects a situation not widely known to numismatists today (although the later counterpart of gold-plating 1883 Liberty Head nickels is quite famous):

In *1831* the quarter dollar was reconfigured to make it a smaller diameter and to eliminate the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM. At the time the gold half eagle, of about the same diameter, included the motto. Beginning on August 1, 1834, new Classic Head half eagles were made, without the motto. This led to a caper in which the 2 and C of 25 C on the reverse of the quarter dollar could be tooled away, leaving just the numeral 5. The silver coins were then gold plated and passed off as half eagles. Apparently, this became especially popular in late summer and autumn 1834 when a flood of new genuine half eagles (of the Classic Head type) appeared in circulation. This notice, one of several encountered on the subject, reflects a scenario intended as a joke, but which got out of hand. This is from the *Cincinnati Intelligencer,* September 13, 1834:

"A great excitement has existed in our city for these two or three days past. The cause of it, as far as we learn the facts, is as follows—Mr. J. Washington Mason, by way of a joke on some of his Jackson friends, (Mr. Mason has been one of the warmest supporters of Gen. Jackson) got Mr. Wilson McGrew of our city, one of our respected jewelers, and a gentleman who is well known in this city and highly respected, to gild him six of the new 25 cent pieces, in order to have a laugh at some of his Jackson friends, by showing them that the metallic currency could be as easily counterfeited as the notes of the United States Bank, or any other bank.

"Mr. McGrew placed the silver pieces in the hands of Mr. Huyser, an artist of this city, to have the work executed—informing Mr. Huyser, at the time, for what purpose the pieces were to be gilded. Mr. Huyser did the work accordingly, while he was doing it, many saw him at it. The facts were known to many in the community, that such a joke was to be practiced, and among others, to the editor of the *Republican,* who became, in the sequel, the prosecuting witness against Mr. McGrew. The editor of the *Republican* himself, requested to have one of the gilt coins, which was promised to him. Mr. Huyser while gilding the coins, called on Mr. Lytle, our representative in Congress, with a request that Mr. Lytle would obtain for him, papers of naturalization, which Mr. Lytle promised to do.

"Mr. Huyser in this interview with Mr. Lytle, communicated to him the fact, that he was gilding the coins. Mr. Lytle told him when he had finished the gilding, to bring them to him, in the presence of a third person, as he wished to have a witness to the fact, owing to the relation in which he, (Mr. Lytle) stood to this community. At, or after the interview, the third person alluded to, than whom no one in this city stands higher, believing it to be a joke, advised that no more should be said about the matter. After this, Mr. Lytle held at his rooms a meeting of several of his political friends, and there the editor of the *Republican* determined to become prosecutor.

"Accordingly, the prosecution was commenced before the mayor. No witness on either side pretended to charge Mr. McGrew with any fraudulent intentions, whatever, Mr. McGrew was, of course, acquitted by the mayor, who refused from the outset of the business, to take any bail in the case. Thus terminated the "golden humbug." This business needs no comment now, we may speak of hereafter."

Another account, from the *Cincinnati Phoenix,* presented this view:

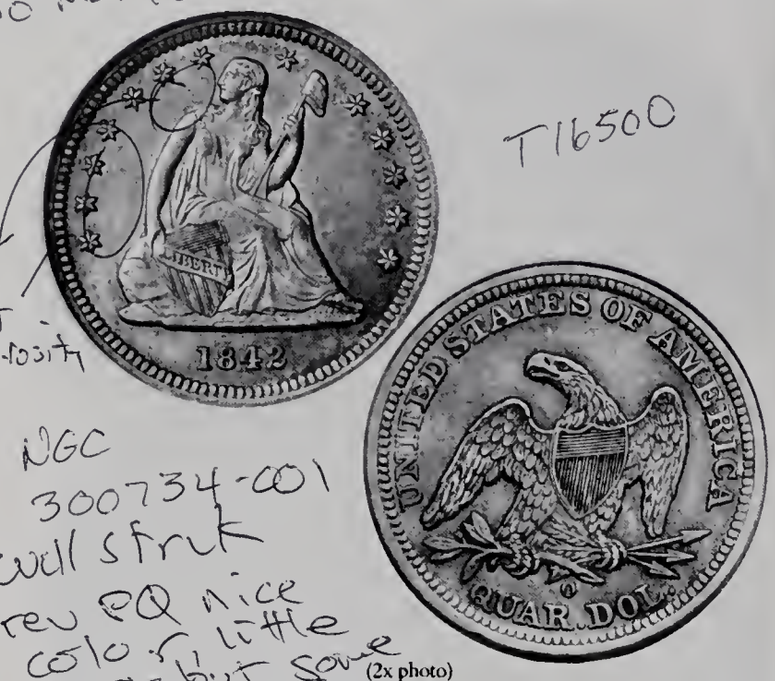
"Yesterday evening Mr. Wilson McGrew, watchmaker and jeweler, of this city, was brought before the mayor, on a charge of counterfeiting the gold coin of the United States, by obliterating the figure 2 and letter C from the reverse side of some 25 cent pieces, and gilding them, so as to make them pass for, or be taken for half eagles.

"Mr. Huyser, an artist, was produced, who testified that he had been in the employment of Mr. McGrew, and that in the course of his business, he had received from him, under a charge of secrecy, some quarter dollar pieces of silver, from which was obliterated the figure 2 and the letter C, leaving the figure 5 under the eagle on the reverse side of the coin; that he was directed by Mr. McGrew to gild the pieces, so that they might have the appearance of half eagles; that he executed the work to the satisfaction of his employer, who said they would be taken readily by the farmers for half eagles; that when the work was completed, he had credit given him by his employer in his account; that he did not know who obliterated the figure and the letter....

"Several witness had heard of this thing for a week previously, and that it was intended only as a joke, etc. Others had seen them publicly in the streets, and been told that they were gilded quarter dollars. The gilding was a matter of notoriety in McGrew's shop, and one of the workmen testified that he had heard it spoken of in fifty other places. Another testified that the holder of them called the pieces 'goldibus gildibus!' Mr. Moses Dawson's reading of the statute, however, satisfied himself and some others of the party, that the act of counterfeiting completed the offense, without a criminal intention!!! Now we humbly beg leave to express an opinion, that, in many of the uses making of the new gold coin, there is a more sure 'offense' than in the proceedings stated. We believe that the new coins have been feloniously counterfeited—and, to show the people how easily it may be done, and thus put them on their guard, must rather be considered as rendering a public service, than as committing an offence against the laws. The mayor discharged Mr. McGrew, saying there was not the slightest evidence of a criminal design, but the clearest proof of the contrary."

Remarkable 1842-O Quarter

Small Date, Mint State



(2x photo)

430 **1842-O Small Date. MS-61 (NGC).** A lovely specimen with nicely blended medium gold and gray toning accented by ample splashes of magenta. A few old marks are seen here and there, under the toning, and do not measurably detract from the appeal of this truly beautiful coin. The striking is excellent, indeed elegant, yielding a specimen that will be highly prized by anyone who collects Liberty Seated quarters. Much scarcer than its counterpart with large date numerals, especially in Mint State; the present coin is the only example called MS-61 by NGC, with only one certified finer by that firm. Elusive, attractive, and near the "top of the heap" where grade is concerned—this sounds like the coin for you!

NGC Census: 1; 1 finer (MS-63).

From an early state of the dies, here with only faint clashing evident on the obverse. The reverse of this issue later cracks in several places within the legend and die clash marks become more evident. In its latest state, the reverse die suffered damage of some uncertain origin which causes a weakening of the main design points on both sides.

Mint State 1847 Quarter

Repunched 7



431 **1847 Repunched 7. MS-63 (PCGS).** A high-grade example of a variety listed as FS-002, repunched 7 in the date. The first logotype was from a smaller font, intended for a smaller diameter coin. The mistake was realized and a heavy, larger font was used instead. Traces of a tiny delicate 7 are still seen.

The Mint had a problem with die punching this year, and various interesting varieties resulted with somewhat related repunched 7 issues being part of the copper cent series.

PCGS Population: 7; 5 finer (MS-65 finest)

Appealing 1853 Quarter Dollar

Arrows and Rays



(2x photo)

432 1853 Arrows and Rays. MS-64 (NGC). Lustrous and very choice Mint State, well struck, this is a very appealing example of this one-year type. Apply whatever test you wish to an MS-64 coin and this will pass. Ideal for type set purposes as implied.

Mint State 1855-O Quarter

Arrows at Date



433 1855-O Arrows. MS-61 (NGC). Light magenta toning with hints of blue over deeply lustrous surfaces. A very attractive example, with some marks to be sure, but probably a *high end* 1855-O, quite possibly deserving of that very rare numismatic term, *undergraded*. Probably a little "nest" of contact marks and abrasions on the left obverse field prompted the grade, and if so this is certainly understandable. However, overall the piece is nicer than typically seen for MS-61, or, for that matter, even MS-62. The present 1855-O quarter is among the 10 finest examples of the date certified by NGC, which speaks highly of the elusive nature of the date in *any* Mint State grade.

NGC Census: 2; 8 finer (MS-67 finest).

Briggs 1-B. "Mintmark centered in crotch; weakly impressed into die. Eagle and design is heavily rusted and plainly visible in all areas."

Condition Census 1857 Quarter

Only One Graded Finer



(2x photo)

434 1857 MS-67 (NGC). A Condition Census specimen within the NGC purview, with 15 other submission *events* (not necessarily different coins) keeping it company, plus just one finer. Obverse and reverse have attractive iridescent toning in the "halo" or "album toning" style, probably from inclusion in a "National" album by Wayte Raymond, or something similar. The striking is quite good at the centers, (not that many buyers pay attention to such things), but with some typically seen lightness within the obverse stars.

NGC Census: 15; 2 finer (MS-68 finest).

Gem 1857 Quarter



435 1857 MS-65 (NGC). Gunmetal-blue and lilac toning with some hints of iridescence over lustrous surfaces. A high-grade example of this early quarter. Scarce so fine.



436 1858 MS-64 (PCGS). Gorgeous light gray, blue, and magenta toning over lustrous surfaces. What seem to be planchet adjustment marks are at the leg of Miss Liberty, hidden by the toning, but interesting to observe.

Gem Mint State 1862 Quarter



(2x photo)

437 1862 MS-65 (PCGS). Light blue and gray toning at the center over deeply lustrous surfaces, evolving to gold and magenta at the borders. A splendid specimen with "album toning," a halo effect caused by long term storage in an album page (such as the well known Raymond series) with sulfur content. Coins with this toning are especially highly prized by numismatists. Today, such coins are typically encountered only when old-time collections are sold, as so many others have been dipped to make them "brilliant." Nicely struck. Fewer than 10 examples of the date have been certified finer than the present gem by PCGS, a testimony to just how scarce this otherwise "common" date actually is in gem Mint State.

PCGS Population: 10; 9 finer (MS-67 finest).

Briggs 3-C. "QUAR. recut."



438 1862-S AU-55 (NGC). Silvery surfaces with light golden brown toning. Probably lightly cleaned long ago, but this is a matter of opinion. In any event, the 1862-S Liberty Seated quarter is a key issue in any and all grades—only 67,000 were struck—and when seen is typically encountered in such preservation as VF or EF, not often AU with original lustre remaining as offered here. For the Liberty Seated specialists among us this is a very important offering.

Briggs 1-A. "Same exact reverse as 1861-S reverse B die state. Die chip connects feather and left top of mintmark."

Gem Proof 1869 Quarter

Iridescent Toning

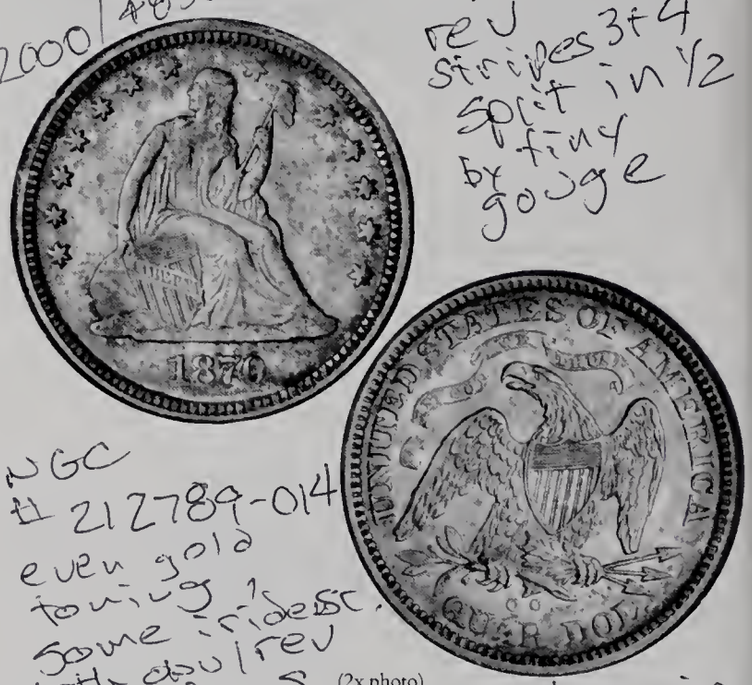


439 1869 Proof-65 (PCGS). A splendid Proof with rich iridescent toning on both sides, particularly intense on the reverse. No doubt from an old-time collection. Only a few have been graded higher by PCGS.

Exceedingly Important 1870-CC Quarter

First Year of Issue

A Classic Rarity



(2x photo)

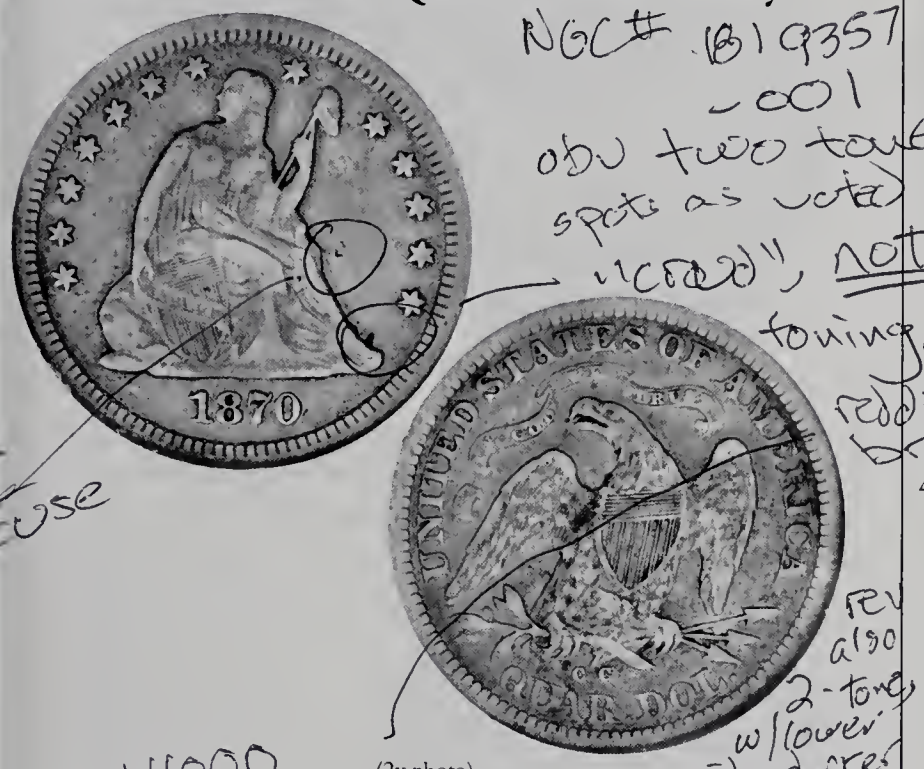
440 1870-CC EF-45 (NGC). Light brown and gold toning with some hints of richer gold and crimson at the borders, over surfaces retaining much lustre. Typical strike for the 1870-CC, the first year of the denomination and the first year the Carson City Mint was in operation, here showing some lightness on the obverse stars. Among Carson City coins, the gold and silver issues of 1870 are especially highly prized. All are scarce, some are rare, and others are especially rare, the presently offered quarter dollar falling into this category. Today it is one of the foremost keys in the Liberty Seated series, on the "wish list" of many, but usually a dream unfulfilled. Indeed, the Briggs reference on the series notes this date is "considered to be the rarest date in the series." The present coin will play to a wide audience, and the next owner will certainly have obtained one of the nicer pieces to come on the market in recent times. Significantly, the *Guide Book* does not even include Mint State among its pricing entries! The present specimen is a pleasing survivor from the scant mintage for the date of 8,340 pieces, the vast majority of which were immediately swallowed up by local commerce. Today, as a rule, virtually *any* example of the

date creates a stir when offered to the collecting community, and the present coin should prove to be no exception. For the record, NGC has certified just *four* examples of the date at EF-45, as here, with only three 1870-CC quarters receiving finer grades than the present coin from that firm. Grading "population" reports are sometimes misleading where numbers are concerned, but such is not the case here! Rare and exciting, and absolutely worthy of strong bidding pursuit.

NGC Census: 4; 3 finer (MS-64 finest).

For a heightened appreciation of the Carson City Mint and all of its coins we recommend you acquire a copy of Rusty Goe's book, *The Mint on Carson Street*, a magnificent tribute to this coining facility, illustrated with all of the rarities and much descriptive text.

Another 1870-CC Quarter Dollar Rarity



(2x photo)

441 **1870-CC VF-25 (NGC).** Medium lilac-gray with some lighter highlights on the design high points, and with a few faint marks that are chiefly visible under low magnification. A pleasing modestly circulated example of this first quarter dollar coinage from the Carson City Mint, the desirability of which is enhanced by its fame as a greatly prized rarity. As the Briggs reference on the series pointed out, example of the date "above VF are prohibitively rare, with EF or better extremely rare." For the Liberty Seated quarter dollar specialist this may well fill in a long-empty space in an otherwise impressive collection.

NGC Census: 8; 10 finer (MS-64 finest).



442 **1871 Proof-64 Deep Cameo (PCGS).** Brilliant and beautiful. A splendid coin which, along with quite a few others from this consignor, is certainly "high end" within the assigned grade or even *undergraded.*

Fantastic 1871-CC Quarter Dollar

Condition Census, Choice Mint State

Quality and Rarity Combined



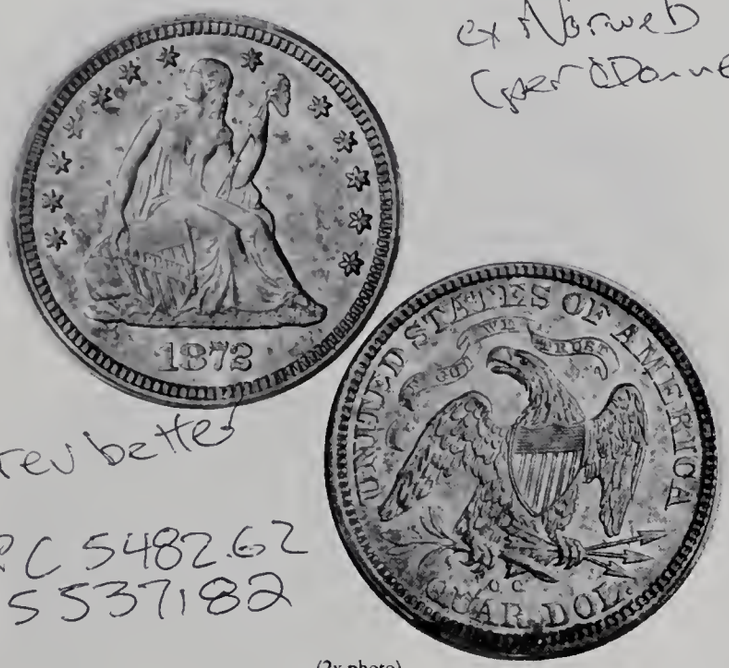
(2x photo)

443 **1871-CC MS-64 (PCGS).** Satiny silver surfaces are overlaid with delicate golden toning and splashes of blue, creating a palette that is a rare treat to the eye. However, it is the date and mintmark that form the prime focus, for 1871-CC is one of the greatest rarities among Liberty Seated coinage in *any* degree of Mint State. Significantly, the current *Guide Book of United States Coins* doesn't even price the date at AU or finer! For those who put great stock in population numbers, it is worth noting here that this is the *sole* 1871-CC quarter called MS-64 by PCGS, with just one other example graded finer. Its tiny mintage of 10,890 pieces is low by any standards, and the Briggs reference notes that the date is "rarely seen above VG, with most pieces being Good or worse." The present beauty is obviously of Condition Census quality, of legendary proportions, and will serve as a beacon in the collection of its next owner—a coin to be long admired and appreciated.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-65).

Incredible Mint State 1872-CC Quarter

Finest Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

444 **1872-CC MS-62 (PCGS).** Light golden toning with some hints of gray and lavender and a bit of blue over satiny surfaces. Nicely struck and of exquisite appearance. The 1872-CC quarter is yet another formidable rarity among early Carson City coins, especially so in Mint State. The highest listed grade and value in the *Guide Book* is MS-60, certainly significant to mention. Even the most advanced cabinets of Liberty Seated coinage are apt to have an 1872-CC in circulated grade, with such a level as EF or AU being perfectly respectable. Mint State is another concept entirely, and over the years just a handful of connoisseurs have owned such a piece. We note here proudly that the presently offered Mint State 1872-CC quarter, though *only* MS-62, is the *finest example of the date certified to date by PCGS!*

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

A heavy raised die gouge on the obverse runs diagonally from the base of the rock upward across the shield to the T in LIBERTY, a noted diagnostic of all genuine 1872-CC quarters.

Important 1872-S Quarter

"Rarest S-Mint" Seated Quarter



445 **1872-S EF-45 (NGC).** Silver surfaces at the center change to gold and gunmetal-blue at the borders. A very nice example of another key issue, among the finest grades that can be *practically* located for the date. Not that a finer one won't come along when an old-time cabinet is dispersed, but among those collecting Liberty Seated coins, the present piece certainly will be appreciated by anyone who sees it. Further, it is the only example of the date called EF-45 by NGC, and only 10 other 1872-S quarters have exceeded the grade of the present coin in the eyes of that firm. While 83,000 examples of the date were struck, much of the mintage saw heavy circulation, and perhaps some melting as well once the arrows coinage of the following year, 1873, was introduced. In fact, the Briggs reference relates: "Rare and very hard to locate in any condition. Most probably melted in 1873 creating a far greater demand than supply." There you have it, an apt description of a prized rarity from the fellow who wrote the book on the series! The rest is up to you!

NGC Census: 1; 10 finer (MS-66 finest).



446 **1873 Close 3. No Arrows. Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS).** Among the nicest examples graded of this variety, the present 1873 No Arrows displays attractive golden toning, with splashes of magenta at the borders, over deep mirror surfaces. As pretty as a picture, and worth owning for artistic value alone, this an "extra" above and beyond its desirability as a low-mintage Proof.

PCGS Population: 8; 5 finer within the designation (Proof-67 Cameo).

Top-Rated 1873 Proof Quarter

Arrows at Date



(2x photo)

447 **1873 Arrows. Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** Top rated by NGC, this is the only noted as Proof-66 Cameo, with none finer. The piece is well struck, brilliant, and very attractive. An especially appealing example, probably destined to be included in a high-quality type set.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within designation.

Elusive High-Grade 1873-CC Quarter

Arrows at Date



(2x photo)

448 1873-CC Arrows. AU-55 (PCGS). Light brown toning with some hints of gunmetal-blue on surfaces that seem to have *complete* lustre in the fields. Some friction on the higher parts dictates the AU classification, but certainly this coin is *high end* among such. Of the 1873-CC With Arrows quarters, just 12,462 were minted, this in an era in which no numismatist collected such (or at least no record has ever been found of one). Accordingly, much of the mintage slipped unobtrusively into circulation, where in time they became quite worn. Today the 1873-CC With Arrows is not often seen, but when it is, typical grades are significantly lower than the present piece. Again, this is a remarkable opportunity, as the present coin stands as a probable candidate for Condition Census honors; it certainly makes the Condition Census (six finest examples graded of any date or variety) where the PCGS *Population Report* is concerned.

PCGS Population: 2; 1 finer (MS-64).

Iridescent Gem 1874 Proof Quarter

Arrows at Date



(2x photo)

449 1874 Arrows. Proof-67 (NGC). An iridescent-toned gem, accompanied by an extraordinarily high grading number, of the second year with arrows at the date and motto on the reverse. Again, this is ideal for a type set. No finer piece has been graded by NGC, a statement in itself.

NGC Census: 6; none finer.



450 1874 Arrows. Proof-63. Heather toning predominates on obverse and reverse, with hints of blue. Well struck and attractive, a splendid example at the Proof-63 level, ideal for a type set or specialized collection.

Gem 1875-CC Quarter

Rare So Fine
None Finer in a PCGS Holder



(2x photo)

451 **1875-CC MS-65 (PCGS).** Lovely iridescent toning over lustrous surfaces, magenta at the center, changing to blue, then to gold, "halo" or "album" toning, so highly prized today, and indicating that this piece probably spent a couple decades in a Wayte Raymond "National" holder or something similar. Although the 1875-CC is not a legendary rarity in worn grades, in gem Mint State it can hold its own very nicely, and relatively few are known to exist. In fact, you are about to tender your bid for the *finest* example of the date certified by PCGS! Another truly remarkable opportunity among the stellar Carson City quarter dollars offered in this section of the catalogue.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.
Briggs 2-B. First C of mintmark centered over R in QUAR.

Another Memorable 1875-CC Quarter



(2x photo)

452 **1875-CC MS-64 (PCGS).** Good things come in pairs, at least sometimes they do, and here we have *another* Mint State 1875-CC. This piece is graded just a shade below the one just offered, but is every bit as attractive. Both obverse and reverse have light golden brown toning with splashes of blue, the latter particularly visible on the obverse border. The grade and appearance of this coin is such that it will be an honored addition to an advanced collection. As you might surmise, the only example of the date certified finer than the present beauty by PCGS is the coin in the preceding lot!

PCGS Population: 6; 1 finer (MS-65).
Briggs 2-B.

Richly Lustrous 1876 Quarter



453 **1876 MS-65 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous surfaces are overlaid with mottled gray and brown toning, sort of like freckles. A nice example of this centennial year date.

Superb Gem 1880 Quarter
NGC Condition Census



(2x photo)

454 **1880 MS-67 (NGC).** Capturing laurels for quality, this piece stands high in the NGC ranking of certified grades. Beyond that, the visual aspects are also deserving. In the present instance the piece is lightly toned with splashes of gold, blue, and other iridescent hues. The striking is quite good on both sides, save for some scarcely noticeable lightness at the topmost stars and on the head of Miss Liberty.

After 1878 there was a glut of small denomination silver coins in the channels of commerce, resulting from high mintages as well as the release of long-stored coins from hoards. As a result, the production of the dime dropped sharply, as a quick glance at the *Guide Book* will dramatically reveal. The mintage of Morgan dollars was something else entirely, as this was a political boondoggle resulting from the Bland-Allison Act of February 28, 1878. In the quarter dollar series in 1880, most collectors desiring examples simply ordered Proofs from the Mint, of which 1,355 were made. The circulation strikes, amounting to just 13,600, received less attention, and most of them simply slipped into circulation without notice, although a few dealers such as E.B. Mason, Jr., featured them in priced catalogues. The reason the Mint made any at all was to avoid creating *rarities* for numismatists, a rather hypocritical situation at the time, as behind the scenes the Mint was making its own rarities for the benefit of privileged officers and employees, such as patterns of the Goloid Metric dollars and, most famously, the 1879-1880 Flowing Hair and Coiled Hair Stellas.

455 1884 AU-58. Lightly brushed, the AU-58 taking this into consideration. Needle-sharp strike. Very low mintage (check it out!). A nice item for a high-grade circulated set.



456 **1887 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Medium gold toning over deep mirror surfaces. Some light striking at the stars. Popular low-mintage date.

457 **1888 Proof-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant with light iridescent toning. Very pleasing. Check out the market price of this coin, and then check the quality of the example offered, and see if you don't agree with us that if it can be purchased anywhere near indicated levels, far less than $1,000, this has to be a *buy!*

Gem 1888-S Quarter



458 **1888-S MS-65 (NGC).** Mottled light magenta and blue toning, with some gray, over lustrous fields. A sharply struck example of a date whose boldness of strike is frequently found wanting. Although the 1888-S quarter registers a fairly prolific mintage figure for the era, most known specimens are in lesser circulated grades, and today gem MS-65 examples such as the present coin are few and far between. Indeed, fewer than 10 examples of the date have received finer grades than the present beauty from NGC, and only 10 have been called MS-65 by that firm.

NGC Census: 10; 8 finer (MS-67 finest).

Astounding 1890 Quarter
Breathtaking Gem



(2x photo)

459 **1890 MS-67 (PCGS).** Brilliant with satiny lustre, sharply struck, this piece approaches perfection. We can't recall ever seeing a nicer one, and PCGS hasn't either! As "grade inflation" progresses in our wonderful hobby, this piece might be a candidate to ratchet up to MS-68 or MS-69—who knows? The point is that it truly is special.

PCGS Population: 17; none finer.

Superb Gem 1891 Quarter



460 **1891 MS-66 (NGC).** Brilliant with a good measure of prooflike surfaces. As nice as the minute it was made!

Exceptional Gem 1893 Quarter

Proof-67 Cameo



(2x photo)

461 **1893 Proof-67 CAM (PCGS).** An exceptional gem specimen, bright silver surfaces with a hint of gold, and as attractive as it can possibly be. It is very enjoyable to see such a coin and have the privilege of cataloguing it!

Condition Census Proof 1896 Quarter



(2x photo)

462 **1896 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant and beautiful with frosted surfaces against mirror fields. Delicate toning. About as nice as can be. Coins like this are seldom offered.

NGC Census: 10; 3 finer within the designation (Proof-69 Ultra Cameo).

Classic 1896-S Rarity

Choice Mint State



(2x photo)

463 **1896-S MS-64 (NGC).** Medium brown and gold toning; on the reverse somewhat mottled with gunmetal-gray, over deeply lustrous surfaces. A high-grade example of one of the "big three" coins in the Barber quarter series—the others being the 1901-S and the 1913-S.

Artistic Gem 1897 Quarter



(2x photo)

464 **1897 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC).** A superb Proof, the present coin stands high on the roster of numerical quality and, far more important (opinion here), it has breathtaking beauty as well. The nicely blended iridescent toning of the border against light golden toning at the centers gives this a high degree of artistry.

NGC Census: 10; 4 finer (Proof-68 finest).

Gem 1897-S Quarter



(2x photo)

465 **1897-S MS-65 (PCGS).** A beautiful, pristine example with lustrous silvery surfaces, very well struck, accented by gorgeous, delicate medium gold and blue toning. A treat to the eye, one of the very finest we have ever seen of this important early New Orleans Mint issue. We recommend a "stretch" bid on this, no faintheartedness! If you take it home you will be secure in the knowledge that few others anywhere are as nice.

PCGS Population: 7; 4 finer (MS-67 finest).

Gem 1901-O Quarter



(2x photo)

466 **1901-O MS-65 (NGC).** Satiny silver surfaces with delicate golden toning overall, with a few hints of blue on the obverse and a few splashes of gray on the reverse. Above average in strike, and far above average in overall quality and appearance.

NGC Census: 7; 1 finer (MS-66).

The 1901-O quarter joins a number of others in this series inasmuch as well-worn pieces are scarce, but still seen with some frequency, but in Mint State the term *rarity* is appropriate, and at the gem level examples are far rarer yet. Assembling a set of Barber dimes, quarters, and half dollars in grades of MS-63 to MS-65, in combination with *superb eye appeal,* is a formidable challenge—one that goes far beyond the possibilities that can be concluded simply by reviewing catalogue or market prices. The availability of truly *choice* pieces is very small.

"Popular Grade" 1901-S Rarity



(2x photo)

467 **1901-S VG-8 (ANACS).** In order to have mountains one must have valleys, and it appropriate that among all the choice and gem

Barber coins offered thus far, there be one in lower grade. Here it is, but not just *any* quarter, instead, it is a popular, highly collectible VG-8 example of far and away the rarest issue in the series, a coin which in the *Guide Book* lists at $4,000 in just G-4 grade, with not a single other coin at that level going into the four digit category.

The desirability of the 1901-S needs no further reiteration, and we leave it up to the bidders to take it from here.

Gem 1903-S Quarter

Exceptional Quality



468 **1903-S MS-65 (PCGS).** Deeply lustrous and brilliant with light golden toning and some hints of gold. One of the very nicest we have ever seen of 1903-S, a meaningful comment. So often among Barber coins certified grade is one thing and eye appeal can be something else entirely different. The two meet nicely in the present coin, and, as such, we encourage a very strong bid from anyone who wants a truly exceptional specimen.

Gem Proof 1905 Quarter



469 **1905 Proof-65 (NGC).** Iridescent blue and magenta toning lightly blended over deep mirror surfaces. A nice example of this low-mintage issue.

Superb Gem 1908 Quarter

Proof-67



(2x photo)

470 **1908 Proof-67 (PCGS).** One of the finest graded by PCGS, this specimen has mottled iridescent toning over deep mirror surfaces, this describing the obverse. On the reverse the toning is mostly light gold, changing to deeper gold at the borders interspersed with magenta and gold.

Gem 1910 Proof Quarter Dollar



471 **1910 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant with lightly mottled gray and iridescent toning over deep mirror surfaces. Frosty devices. The Kennywood Collection sale is one of the nicest *quality* auctions we have ever conducted, with exceptional pieces not being the exception at all, but being the rule.

Gem 1911-D Quarter



(2x photo)

472 **1911-D MS-65 (NGC).** Lightly mottled brown toning with hints of yellow, over satiny surfaces, this describing the obverse. The reverse is more lustrous and silvery, with splashes of medium and dark brown here and there. The striking is excellent, indeed exceptional. As with many Barber quarter dollars, the 1911-D is readily available in worn grades, but not often at the MS-65 level.

NGC Census: 5; none finer.

Gem Proof 1913 Quarter



473 **1913 Proof-65 (PCGS).** On the obverse mottled iridescent toning, primarily gray and blue but with light gold and magenta, is seen over deep mirror surfaces. The reverse is mostly light gold changing to somewhat deeper gold at the borders and intermingled with gunmetal-blue. Not often seen so nice.

Superb Gem 1913-S Quarter

Lowest Mintage of the Series



(2x photo)

474 **1913-S MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous, deeply frosted. A hint of champagne toning over silvery fields and features.

The 1913-S, with a mintage of just 40,000 pieces, stands as the lowest production variety in the entire Barber quarter dollar series 1892-1916. Although the 1901-S is rare in terms of surviving pieces at the Mint State level (due to less interest in collecting mintmarks at that earlier date), the 1913-S is nevertheless a prime key issue.

This concludes, or *almost* concludes, our complete offering of the "big three" in the Barber series, a choice Mint State 1896-S, a "popular grade" 1901-S, and the present superb gem 1913-S—seemingly something for just about everyone.

PCGS Population: 8; 5 finer (MS-68 finest).

Another Superb Gem 1913-S!

Who Would Have Believed It?



(2x photo)

475 **1913-S MS-66 (NGC).** Another splendid 1913-S, this one certified by NGC. Although the assigned grades are the same, the appearances are different, this one having the "halo" or "album toning" from longtime storage in a Raymond or other holder. The present piece is silver at the center, changing to heather and blue, then to intense blue, then to gold.

NGC Census: 6; 3 finer (MS-67 finest).

Under magnification it becomes evident that this coin and the preceding one were struck fairly close together. Both have the same die characteristics, some slight weakness on star 11, and a die crack from the last digit of the date across the tip of the neck.

Good things occasionally come in pairs, as we noted earlier. However, those pairs typically don't include gem examples of 1913-S!



476 **1914 MS-65 (NGC).** Deeply frosty and lustrous with light blue and magenta surfaces with splashes of gold, somewhat mottled. A very attractive arrangement overall, yielding a truly *special* example of this otherwise available date.



477 **1915 MS-66 (NGC).** Light gold and gray toning over deeply lustrous surfaces. Significantly above average in striking quality. A pristine coin that has never been dipped or brightened. For the Barber quarter specialist this is a find.

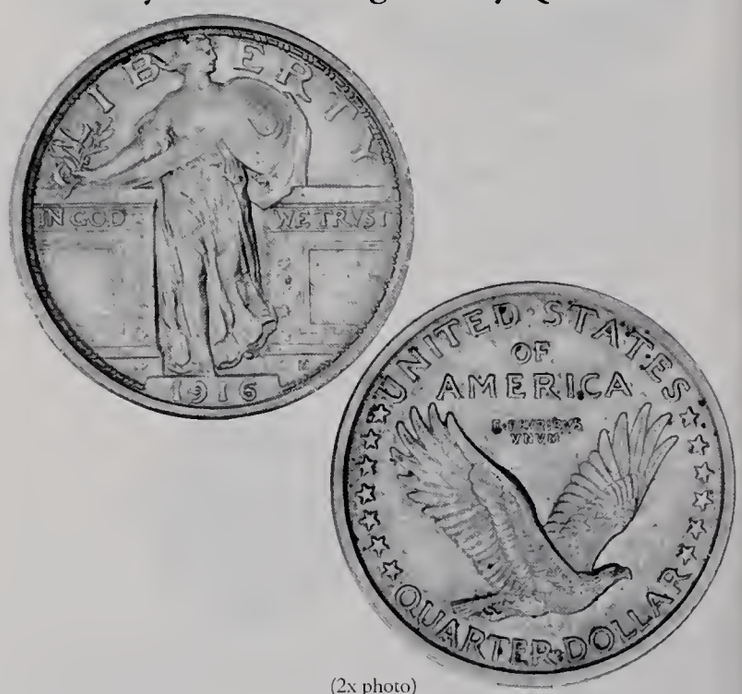
NGC Census: 10; 1 finer (MS-67)

Superb Gem 1916-D Quarter



478 **1916-D Barber. MS-66 (PCGS).** Satiny lustre. Well struck, and very attractive overall, this is one of the nicest 1916-D quarters we have ever seen. To be sure, there are some scattered marks, particularly on the obverse, but no doubt the experts at PCGS have taken this into consideration. For some reason most 1916-D quarters seem very "baggy" and have poor eye appeal. We will have to alert our world class photographer, Douglas Plasencia, to keep special photographs of this 1916-D in case we ever fit a book on Barber silver coins into our writing schedule!

Key 1916 Standing Liberty Quarter



(2x photo)

479 **1916 Standing Liberty. EF-45, lightly cleaned.** Light silver color overall, highly lustrous. Medium gray toning with hints of lilac. Seemingly very lightly cleaned long ago, but of excellent appearance and aspect. An example that should be examined prior to bidding, for the quality is nicer than our words may indicate.

For a long time the 1916 Standing Liberty quarter, with a mintage of only 52,000 pieces, has been one of the most famous of all 20th-century coins. While of course a Mint State piece would be preferable, this lovely coin would be a proud addition to the vast majority of fine collections.

Ever Popular 1917 Quarter
Type I, Full Head
Superb Gem



480 **1917 Type I. MS-66 FH (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous, a very attractive sharply struck example, of the first issue of the Standing Liberty quarter. This is one of our all time favorite designs. If we could close our eyes in a dream and be presented with a bushel of coins, we might pick this particular date and quality—knowing they would sell as soon as they were offered.

Although the 1917 Type I quarter is not at all rare, even in Mint State, in the context of completing a 20th-century *type set* it is one of the several most elusive issues.



481 **1917 Type I. MS-65 FH (PCGS).** Light golden toning, somewhat mottled on the reverse with splashes of magenta, over very sharply struck surfaces. A pristine example which has never been dipped or brightened and, as such, is scarce today.

Lustrous Gem 1917 Type II Quarter

(2x photo)

482 **1917 Type II. MS-67 FH (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous, and very attractive, a superb specimen of the 1917 Type II quarter, much harder to find sharply struck than is the Type I version. To be sure, this and other "Full" Head coins are not necessarily *completely full.* The striking is good, all details except the very highest hair nuances are visible, and the shield rivets, of which two are just slightly weak, are better defined than usual. On some Full Head coins the shield rivets are weak—indicating mixed guidelines for striking sharpness.

NGC Census: 8; none finer within the designation.

Superb Gem 1917-D Quarter
Type II FH



(2x photo)

483 **1917-D Type II. MS-66 FH (NGC).** Light gold and lilac toning over deeply lustrous surfaces. Hair details exceptionally full, more so than seen on many "FH" pieces. Shield rivets are all present, a few at the lower left lacking detail.

NGC Census: 3; 1 finer (MS-67 FH finest).

Famous 1918/7-S Overdate Quarter

Lustrous AU



(2x photo)

484 **1918/7-S AU-58 (NGC).** Among Standing Liberty quarters the 1918/7-S overdate is the rarest major variety. None seem to have been deliberately saved at the time of issue, and it was not until the early 1930s that the variety was first identified and published in numismatic circles. Accordingly, the survival of any pieces is a matter of chance.

The present coin is quite nice, displaying in the obverse and reverse fields the majority of original lustre. There is some light striking at the center, this being typical. Mottled gray toning is seen here and there, particularly at the obverse border.



485 **1923 MS-66 (NGC).** Mottled gray toning with some splashes of autumn-leaf red over lustrous silvery surfaces. Although this piece is not designated as Full Head, and although the head is not *completely* full, it is just as nice as some that have been called FH. As such, it may merit more than passing consideration during lot viewing time. Check it out!

Gem 1928-S Quarter Dollar

Sharply Struck



486 **1928-S MS-66 FH (PCGS).** Lustrous and sharply struck, Full Head, indeed *fuller* than usual. However, the shield rivets have faded away at the lower left, but don't pay attention to this (few do!) unless you are, as Frank Archer might have said, *very particular.* Such things make numismatics a lot of fun and a bit more challenging than most people realize—although we like to think that fans of American Numismatic Rarities are a bit more educated than most.

487 **1929-D MS-65 (NGC).** Mottled gray and magenta toning with some splashes of sea green over deeply lustrous surfaces. An important opportunity for a member of the legion of collectors who enjoy toning on 20th-century silver issues (often a subject of discussion on the Internet).

Superb Gem 1930 Quarter



488 **1930 MS-67 (PCGS).** Rich, deep lustre characterizes both sides of this Standing Liberty quarter, from the last year of production. The head details are partial, perhaps 60%. Among the nicest graded of this year and mint.

489 **Nearly complete set of Washington quarters 1932-1964-D,** lacking only the 1932-D. Most grade AU-55 to MS-63 with a couple of VF and EF pieces. Highlights include the following: ☆ 1936-D AU-58 ☆ 1937-S MS-63 ☆ 1937-D MS-64 ☆ 1939-S MS-64 ☆ 1941-D MS-66. A nice old set with room to improve. Housed in a Library of Coins album. (Total: 82 pieces)

Splendid Gem 1932-D Quarter



(2x photo)

490 **1932-D MS-65 (PCGS).** Light lustrous surfaces, delicately toned with splashes of iridescence and gray, attractive overall. The presently offered 1932-D quarter is a classic in its own right. In the context of Washington quarters from 1932 to date this is the ultimate object of desire, a coin fairly scarce in any Mint State level, rare in MS-64, and very rare in MS-65.

PCGS Population: 56; 1 finer (MS-66).

"Delicious" 1932-D Quarter

Lustrous and Choice



(2x photo)

491 **1932-D MS-64 (PCGS).** A lustrous specimen, silver with light golden toning, well struck, rather nifty, delicious, or whatever other adjective you may wish to apply. Some scattered marks can be seen here and there on the obverse, truly minimal. The lustre is deep and rich.

The other day we had occasion to be interviewed at length by Ed Reiter, Editor in Chief of *COINage* magazine, and coming up in conversation happened to be Washington quarters. Whether the remarks will reach print in one or another of Ed's fine columns, "My Two-Cent's Worth," remains to be seen. The present cataloguer (QDB) noted that in choice and gem grade the 1932-D quarter is at least 10 times rarer than the lower-mintage 1913-S. A few years ago we implored readers to tap into this situation and buy some, this being a low in the market when few people wanted early Washington quarters of any kind. Those days seem so remote now!

Another Choice 1932-D Quarter



(2x photo)

492 **1932-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Deeply lustrous surfaces with splashes of brown. A very attractive coin with a great deal of eye appeal, one that serious challenges the MS-65 level and invites careful inspection in that regard. Again, within the context of the Washington quarter series, one of the most popular in American numismatics, the 1932-D in Mint State is a *rarity.*

Lustrous 1932-S Quarter



493 **1932-S MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous with a few hints of toning. Notable as the lowest mintage issue from 1932 to date, the 1932-S has always been in demand. In terms of availability, due to distribution practices the 1932-D is a bit scarcer, but no matter, both are needed for completion. It is always a pleasure to offer quality such as this.

Lustrous 1932-S Quarter



494 **1932-S MS-64 (NGC).** Richly lustrous with light golden toning. A few marks here and there, including some on the cheek define the grade, but the overall appeal is quite good.

Gem Proof 1936 Quarter Dollar
Rarest Modern Proof Issue



495 **1936 Proof-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant and beautiful. Not much else needs to be said, as it is about as nice as when first minted. It is perfectly okay if it gets resubmitted a couple more times and graduates to Proof-66 or Proof-68—it really is choice.

In 1936 Proof sets were made available to numismatists for the first time since 1916. The coins were offered individually or they could be bought as a set, the latter for $181 plus postage. As pieces were struck to order and as demand varied, the mintage quantities for the Proofs of this era, 1936 through 1942, are not constant for each denomination. Of all of the issues of that early span, the smallest mintage figure goes to the 1936 quarter, just 3,837 were produced in Proof format. Ever since then the mintages have been much higher for the standard Proof cent, nickel, dime, quarter, and half dollar issues. Accordingly, today the 1936 stands as *the* rarity among modern issues (if you care to call 1936-1942 *modern*).

HALF DOLLARS

A choice MS-63 1795 leads the way here, followed by one of the most cherished rarities in all of U.S. numismatics, a lovely 1796 16 Stars half dollar in "only" VF-25! Mint State 1803 and 1806 half dollars also make an appearance, and a gem MS-66 1811, Large 8 is a highlight in anyone's book! How about a MS-66 1814? Indeed, there are more than enough highlights in the early half dollar series to keep our bidders busy for some time to come, including a Mint State 1836 Reeded Edge rarity! Among the Liberty Seated series can be found a nice AU-50 1842-O Small Date, Small Letters rarity along with so many other rarities in the design type that we could write several pages about them—in fact, we have, and you only need to read our descriptions to find out what treasures await you here! For instance, there's an 1861 C.S.A Scott Restrike half dollar in MS-62, and a spectacular 1870-CC in MS-62 from the celebrated Pryor Collection, as well as multiple specimens of the early Carson City rarities, many of them in truly choice grades. Barber half dollars are represented by more gems and rare dates than you can shake the proverbial stick at, and likewise for the Walking Liberty series. Key dates and Condition Census half dollars? All can be found here, so happy hunting!

Mint State 1795 Half Dollar
Overton-110, MS-63
Superb Eye Appeal



(2x photo)

496 **1795 Overton-110. Rarity-4. MS-63 (NGC).** A particularly attractive O-110 Flowing Hair half dollar, the first design type in the series. Both obverse and reverse are a light lilac silver with some hints of gold. The center of the obverse has exquisite detail in the hair, remarkably so, this being true of the lower tresses. There is some lightness above the forehead. The stars to the left and right are fairly sharp, with some trivial weakness at the center of some, but scarcely worthy of mention. The dentils are extremely bold and serve to frame the portrait. On the reverse the definition of the eagle is remarkably fine, with feathers available, at least in outline form, all over the breast, and with the wing feathers being especially so. Some lightness can be mentioned here and there, but has no significance as to the value of the piece. The dentils are complete and bold, again serving to frame the motifs. Under magnification some light clash marks can be seen, typical of the variety.

The present coin is immensely appealing, and we recommend that anyone interested in acquiring an especially nice piece for a type set or a specialized collection contemplate this piece at some length. It certainly is one of the nicest of its variety to pass under our view.

Certification population numbers are interesting for both NGC and PCGS, but as they do not treat die varieties, but just basic years, they are not particularly relevant to the rarity of this or any other attributed die variety.

Classic 1796 Half Dollar Rarity
O-102, 16 Stars



(2x photo)

497 **1796 O-102. Rarity-6. 16 Stars. VF-25 (PCGS).** A beautiful specimen of the 1796 half dollar with 16 obverse stars, this piece will serve well in a type set. Both obverse and reverse are attractively toned, medium gray and lilac. All other aspects are quite good, including near (but not complete) absence of mint adjustment marks. Within the VF category this is one of the nicest we have seen.

Among silver coins by design type, the half dollar of 1796-1797 is far and away the rarest. Combining the Draped Bust obverse with the Small Eagle reverse, the total production for these two years, distributed among several die varieties, amounted to just 3,918 pieces. The reason for the scarcity is that beginning in late spring 1795 the mint installed a heavy-capacity press, making it possible to effectively strike silver dollars. Up to this point a few silver dollars had been made (including 1,758 delivered in 1794), but there were problems with most of them, including lightness of strike in certain areas. After late spring 1795 dollars were produced in large quantities, and production of other silver denominations dropped off sharply. Indeed, for the quarter dollar a few pieces were made in 1796, then no more until 1804. The reason for this is that the Treasury Department did not strike silver coins for its own account but, instead, made coins only at the specific request of depositors of bullion. Such people typically asked for dollars, as a given quantity of them was easier to store and to count. Moreover, in international maritime trade, such as to the West Indies and to the distant East Indies, United States silver dollars could compete effectively with Spanish-American 8 reales pieces. In the same marketplace few foreign merchants would have wanted half dollars or other smaller coins.

On the obverse a die crack is seen from the dentils to the left of the date, continuing through the first four stars, dividing between star 3 and star 4, and exiting to the border through star 4. On the reverse a delicate crack is seen connecting ES (STATES) and another connecting a dentil with the upper right of O (OF).



498 **1803 O-102a. Rarity-3+. Large 3. EF-40 (NGC).** Medium gray and light golden surfaces with lighter toning on the portrait and stars. A pleasing specimen at the indicated level.

Choice Mint State 1803 Half Dollar

O-103, MS-64

Solo Finest NGC Coin



(2x photo)

499 **1803 O-103. Rarity-3. Large 3. MS-64 (NGC).** This piece is the finest graded by NGC, with none others in view, left, right, before, behind, or above! As if this were not enough, the piece itself has superb eye appeal, far above average strike, and just about anything and everything else the connoisseur loves.

Both obverse and reverse are toned light heather, with splashes of gold and gunmetal-blue, light enough that the rich underlying lustre is very evident. Under magnification the hair details on the obverse are seen to be excellent, the stars mostly have their centers, and the date is bold. There are some hidden marks on the drapery above the second 8 digit, probably keeping this from the MS-65 category. An intermittent crack is seen through to the tops of the letters in LIBERTY, and a subtle clash mark is above the neckline. On the reverse the striking is similarly excellent, with nearly all details being sharp, exceptions just being a few stars. Considering half dollars within the 1801-1807 Draped Bust obverse, Heraldic Eagle reverse, this is one of the nicest seen of *any* date.

NGC Census: 1, none finer

Lovely Mint State 1806 Half Dollar

Overton-109a



500 **1806 O-109a. Rarity-4. MS-61 (NGC).** A lovely specimen, combining correct grading at the Mint State category with the equally or more important aspect of good eye appeal, to which can be added a significantly above average strike. The toning on the obverse and reverse is light golden brown, with some gray at the center. Little flashes and sparks of iridescence appear around the borders, particularly in protected areas.

Few 1806 half dollars are this choice. The present example will suffice for the specialist by die varieties or more likely, for inclusion in a type set. The overall quality is all here.

Both obverse and reverse show light die rust, probably from the dampness of the Philadelphia summer, this imparting a somewhat matte effect. On the obverse a die crack is seen through the base of the date, extending to the left with another crack at the left border, the prominent crack from Miss Liberty's neck through star 12. On the reverse there are clash marks at OF and elsewhere.

501 **Trio of early half dollars:** ☆ 1806 O-109a. Rarity-4. Pointed 6. Stem not through claw. VF-30. Iridescent blue, gold, and rose over both sides ☆ 1818/7 O-102a. Rarity-2. Small 8. EF-45, cleaned but naturally retoned over the years ☆ 1826 O-101a. Rarity-2. AU-58. Iridescent blue-green, magenta, and rose. A few faint hairlines are detected, but the piece is original and very attractive. (Total: 3 pieces)

502 **1807 O-105. Rarity-1. Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle. EF-40 (NGC).** A pleasing example with light gray toning accented with splashes of brown here and there.

Late state of the dies. Obverse with die stress marks at the borders, multiple breaks at the left side of the date continuing through all stars before L (LIBERTY), clash marks before Miss Liberty's throat, a transfer from the upper outline of the eagle's wing on the reverse. On the reverse there are clash marks at OF, a large crack and cud (piece missing from the die) between E and D (UNITED), a crack through the top of STATES extending to just above the O.

Incredible Gem 1811 Half Dollar
Overton-109, MS-66



(2x photo)

503 **1811 O-109. Rarity-2. Large 8. MS-66 (NGC).** Sharp striking on obverse and reverse, rich lustre, and gorgeous light gray, gold, and blue toning add up to create an *incredible* half dollar of this early Capped Bust date. We do not know how many have been certified of this die variety, as population figures deal with date only. It would, however, be difficult to imagine that this piece has significant competition.

Rare 1812/1 O-101 Half Dollar
Among Finest of the Variety



(2x photo)

504 **1812/1 O-101. Rarity-5. Large 8. VF-30 (PCGS).** A lovely example of the O-101 variety, with medium gray toning. Among the top seven finest certified by PCGS, an important status in view of the widespread popularity of Capped Bust half dollars by Overton varieties.

PCGS Population: 5; 2 finer (AU-50 finest).

High-Grade 1812 Half Dollar

O-105, MS-65



(2x photo)

505 **1812 O-105. Rarity-1. MS-65 (NGC).** An especially high-grade example, one of the finest in existence of O-105. Certification data are interesting, but as noted earlier, they do not apply to specific die varieties and are of little use to the specialist. However, taking the entire panorama of die varieties of the 1812 year, the present piece ranks quite high.

Both obverse and reverse are bright silver, lustrous and somewhat prooflike, accented with splashes of gold. The striking on both sides is superb. All told this is one of the nicest 1812 half dollars we have ever seen of *any* die variety at this level.

506 **Quartette of half dollars:** ☆ 1812 O-109a. Rarity-2. EF-45. Soft lilac-gray surfaces ☆ 1821 O-101a. Rarity-1. EF-45. Olive-gray with hints of gold ☆ 1922 Grant With Star. AU-58. Cleaned long ago ☆ 1927 Vermont. MS-63. Lustrous golden gray surfaces. (Total: 4 pieces)

Superb Gem 1814 Half Dollar

O-103, MS-66

None Graded Finer



(2x photo)

507 **1814 O-103. Rarity-1. MS-66 (PCGS).** First of all, no finer 1814 half dollar has been graded by PCGS, and only one other has commanded this grade level. Accordingly, those who keep an eye on numbers will be delighted with this coin and may want to compete strongly! Beyond that, and equally important, the present piece is exceptional in its *quality,* with its excellent strike on the obverse and reverse, sharp and with nearly (but not completely) full details. The toning on both sides is a beautiful lilac at the center, changing to blue and gold at the borders. The coin is memorable in its appearance, and its next owner will certainly enjoy its possession.

PCGS Population: 2; none finer.

Under magnification a clash mark from the eagle's wing on the reverse can be seen in the left obverse field, plus other interesting clash marks (*really interesting*) hidden among the obverse stars to the left. Below the portrait of Miss Liberty is a clash mark from the motto on the reverse.

On the other side of the coin there is a prominent break from the eagle's wing to the left, to the ribbon, as well as scattered cracks in the letters.

Gem 1814 Half Dollar
O-103, MS-65



(2x photo)

508 **1814 O-103. Rarity-1. MS-65 (NGC).** Another lovely specimen, well struck, with light golden toning at the center over richly lustrous surfaces. Splashes of electric blue at the borders. The reverse has magenta and gold.

The die state of this particular piece is fascinating, with prominent clash marks visible on both sides, most notably on the obverse. Certainly worth inspecting. On the reverse a ridge or bar extends from the top edge of the eagle's wing at left to the ribbon.

509 1818 O-108. Rarity-1. AU-58. Mostly brilliant surfaces with much mint lustre still remaining. Light magenta and gray toning around the borders. Fairly well struck. A pleasing example of the date and variety.

Important 1820/19 Half Dollar
Among Top Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

510 **1820/19 O-101. Rarity-2. MS-64 (PCGS).** Deep smoky gray at the centers, with pleasing overtones of soft lilac, green, and deep gold toward the rims on both sides. Underlying lustre adds to the visual appeal. Nicely struck with bold definition of all central details and a clearly visible overdate. A rather common variety, but a popular one with collectors due to the bold overdate. Tied for the finest seen by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer.

Mint State 1821 Half Dollar

O-107, *Possible Proof*



511 **1821 O-107. Rarity-3. MS-62 (PCGS).** This lovely piece hails from the famous Norweb Collection, where it was offered as Lot 3075, attributed as Proof-60 to 63, and described as follows:

A beautiful coin, with golden brown surfaces accented with tinges of sea green, magenta, and gold. The Proof surface is complete on both obverse and reverse, including within the shield stripes of the eagle.

Walter Breen, in his *Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins,* knew of just one Proof example of O-107, the Elder-Ryder-Raymond coin.

Here is an exceedingly important opportunity for the connoisseur, for not only is the 1821 half dollar exceedingly rare as a Proof example of this early date, but in addition the die variety is Rarity-5 in *any* grade.

Opinions on such things vary, and at present it is attributed as MS-62 by PCGS, with the Norweb pedigree as part of the label. This coin invites in-person inspection, offering as it does a very nice strike, nice eye appeal, and a high quality pedigree.

Purchased from Maurice Storck on April 10, 1954; Bowers and Merena's sale of the Norweb Collection, November 1988, Lot 3075.



512 **1824/various dates. O-103. Rarity-1. Struck off center. Net EF-40 (ANACS).** Sharpness of AU-50, cleaned. Approximately 5% off-center to just right of 12:00. Silvery gray with some golden toning and good lustre remaining. Some light scratches are noted at central obverse and some hairlines are present elsewhere still from the old cleaning. The tips of stars 6 and 7 are off the planchet and 50 is teetering on the edge. Still fairly attractive despite the net grade, an eye-appealing error coin from this popular series.

Apex 1824/4 Half Dollar

O-110, Finest and Sole Highest PCGS



513 **1824/4 O-110. Rarity-2. MS-64 (PCGS).** In the PCGS roster this is the only piece graded as MS-64, with no competitors in sight to left or right, and none above, although there are some below. The coin is of excellent quality, deeply and richly lustrous, sort of satiny. The striking is fairly decent, but with some flatness at the stars left and right, and a lightness at the left side of the motto (although everything is clear there). A high echelon example of this interesting variety. As it holds its own in terms of eye appeal, this coin should perform very well in the auction venue, attracting both lovers of Condition Census numbers as well as quality, an ideal situation.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.



514 **1824/4 O-110. Rarity-2. Struck off center. Net VG-8 (ANACS);** sharpness of F-12, cleaned. Struck a bit more than 5% off-center to 10:00. Pleasing silver and pewter gray with some hairlines and brightness from the cleaning. The points of all left obverse stars are off the planchet as are the tops of all the letters in UNITED, making for a dramatic error. A most worthwhile Bust half error, a type whose off-centers always see strong bidding.

Gem 1825 Half Dollar
Overton-105



(2x photo)

515 **1825 O-105. Rarity-2. MS-65 (PCGS).** Here we go again: a coin that *as a date* is Condition Census, PCGS has graded just 10 at this level, plus three finer (MS-66). However, those numbers cover all varieties of 1825 half dollars, not just the O-105, and thus taken on its own the O-105 is significantly rarer PCGS grade-wise.

Both the obverse and reverse are deeply and richly lustrous, bright, with light golden toning accented by hints and splashes of iridescence here and there. The striking is quite good at the centers, but with some lightness at the stars, scarcely worth mentioning, and some lightness at the left side of the motto. Such lightness at the motto, a hallmark of the type, was caused by the requirement that metal flow deeply in both directions when a pair of dies was in the press—and at this point the ample bosom of Miss Liberty and the drapery called for metal while the motto did as well, with the result that some light striking occurred in both places. The aspect of die placement and pairing with regard to striking is exceedingly important in the evaluation of early coins, although it is not often mentioned. It is for this precise reason that, for example, the Type II gold dollar, produced in 1854, was soon discontinued—the metal could not flow at the center to fill the new high-relief portrait of Miss Liberty on the obverse and, at the same time, fill in completely the numerals opposite on the reverse.

PCGS Population: 10; 3 finer (MS-66 finest).

516 **Quartette of early half dollars:** ☆ 1826 O-101. AU-55. Pale golden gray over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1831 O-110. AU-55. Delicate rose-gray surfaces ☆ 1835 O-101. AU-50, cleaned ☆ 1837 AU-53, lightly cleaned, but lustrous and nicely retoned at the rims. (Total: 4 pieces)

Memorable Gem 1826 Half Dollar
O-102, MS-65



(2x photo)

517 **1826 O-102. Rarity-1. MS-65 (PCGS).** A lovely gem specimen of this die variety, whose rarity in the PCGS world cannot be evaluated as the population is spread among other Overton numbers.

The present piece is sharply struck on all parts of the obverse and reverse, including the hair, the stars, and the motto. The lustre is a rich and frosty silver, with splashes of magenta and, at the border, hints of electric blue. If *quality* is your forte, this coin is for you.

Gorgeous 1826 Half Dollar

O-113, Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

518 **1826 O-113. Rarity-3. MS-66 (NGC).** A simply gorgeous piece that has about everything desired. On the obverse the portrait has needle-sharp striking. The stars are mostly well struck but with some lightness at the centers of the topmost. On the reverse the striking is superb overall. The beauty part lies with the rich, deep lustre overlaid with lilac and blue patination. Memorable!

Lustrous 1827 Half Dollar

O-112a, MS-64



519 **1827 O-112a. Rarity-4. MS-64 (NGC).** A lovely, lustrous specimen of this die variety. The obverse and reverse have rich mint frost, somewhat satiny, toned light heather, gray, and gold. The striking is quite good, considerably above average for the design type.

On the obverse a die crack is seen from the border through the upper left of the 2 (1827) deeply into the portrait. Under magnification combined with careful study some delicate clash marks can be seen on both sides.

520 **Quartette of half dollars:** ☆ 1828 Square Base 2, Large 8s. Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, cleaned long ago ☆ 1837 VF-25. Rich rose-gray with steel blue at the peripheries ☆ 1853 Arrows and Rays. Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-58. Lightly cleaned at one time, reverse planchet flaw ☆ 1877-S Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-58, cleaned. (Total: 4 pieces)

521 1829 O-109. Rarity-4. MS-62 (NGC). Light gray and gold toning over lustrous surfaces. Not needle sharp in detail but above average. A very attractive example of the Overton-109 issue, quite ready for placement in a specialized collection.

522 **Trio of certified early half dollars:** ☆ 1829 O-115. Rarity-1. AU-58 (NGC). Deep olive-gray with lovely pastel iridescence toward the periphery ☆ 1831 O-119. Rarity-3. AU-55 (NGC). Lustrous medium gray with attractive golden highlights toward the rims ☆ 1834 O-101. Rarity-1. Large Date, Small Letters. AU-50 (PCGS). Lustrous with golden toning at the rims. (Total: 3 pieces)

Superb Gem 1831 Quarter

O-103, MS-66



(2x photo)

523 **1831 O-103. Rarity-1. MS-66 (NGC).** Another memorable Capped Bust half dollar, this combines excellent strike, rich lustre, with breathtakingly beautiful toning, light gray and lilac mixed with some hints of gold and blue. A piece which is as pretty as a picture.

Gem 1834 Half Dollar

O-109, MS-65

Condition Census



524 **1834 O-109. Rarity-1. Small Date, Small Stars, Small Letters. MS-65 (NGC).** What an exciting coin this is! First of all, it is of the Small Date, Small Stars, and Small Letters style, listed in the *Guide Book,* the effect being somewhat cameo-like. Generally, and as we write these words no exceptions come to mind, when the letters, date, and stars are small, a cameo effect is generated, considerably more pleasing than when these features are large. For example, among Liberty Seated half dollars of the early years, those with small letters on the reverse seem to be quite a bit more attractive than those of the Large or Medium Letters style. Of course, opinions vary, but that is our view.

The surfaces on both sides are simply gorgeous, light lilac toning against deep frost, with some gray and blue. The dentils are bold on the obverse and are not quite as bold, but still strong on the reverse (as per the characteristics of the dies). The striking is needle sharp in almost all areas. This coin is of sufficient quality that no matter what your budget might be, the present piece will forever answer your desire.

NGC Census: 2; 1 finer (MS-67)

Mint State 1836 Reeded Edge Half Dollar

Beautiful and Rare



(2x photo)

525 **1836 Reeded Edge. MS-61 (PCGS).** Lustrous, frosty surfaces, a rare circulation strike in unquestioned Mint State, and seldom seen as such. We estimate that perhaps 400 to 500 examples exist from an original mintage of about 4,200 for this coin, with the number of lustrous Mint State pieces being only in the *dozens*. The present coin has light golden toning with hints of blue with some magenta as well. All told it is a stunning example of a coin rarely encountered.

Exceptional 1839 Capped Bust Half Dollar

Lustrous Mint State



(2x photo)

526 **1839 Reeded Edge. MS-64 (PCGS).** An exceptional example possessing rich lustre and good eye appeal. The striking is sharp at the center but somewhat light at the stars. A definite possibility for a high-grade type set.

PCGS Population: 24; 4 finer (MS-66 finest).

527 **1839 Liberty Seated. No Drapery. EF-45.** Lightly cleaned long ago, but not that most people would notice. Medium gray and gold surfaces over fairly well-struck features. Early issue without extra cloth, called "drapery," at the elbow. Not rare in an absolute sense, but far more elusive than the without drapery counterparts in the lower denomination silver series. For the type set collector this is an important offering.

528 1839 Liberty Seated. With Drapery. AU-55. Second Liberty Seated style of 1839, with cloth or drapery added to the elbow. Light gray toning over lustrous surfaces. Very close to Mint State, about as close as one can get without actually crossing the line. Popular as the first year of issue.

529 **1840 Small Date, Medium Letters. EF-45.** Light gray and gold toning over surfaces that retain lustre in certain areas. Reverse die with two light cracks, an interesting feature.

Partial Liberty Seated Half Dollar Set

A Lot Worthy of Examination

530 **Partial set of Liberty Seated half dollars with many impressive coins therein,** including a counterstamped 1861. Unless otherwise noted, all coins enjoy a wealth of varied toning highlights: ☆ 1840 Small Letters. EF-45 ☆ 1840-O VF-35 ☆ 1841 AU-50, somewhat prooflike, lightly brushed long ago. Repunched first 1 in date ☆ 1842 Small Date. EF-40 ☆ 1842 Medium Date. EF-40 ☆ 1842-O Medium Date. EF-40 ☆ 1843 AU-50, dipped. Lightly repunched 43 in date ☆ 1843-O EF-45 ☆ 1845 EF-45 ☆ 1845-O EF-45 ☆ 1846 Medium Date. AU-50 ☆ 1846 Tall Date. EF-45 ☆ 1847 EF-40 ☆ 1847-O EF-40 ☆ 1849-O VF-35, faintly granular surfaces ☆ 1850-O EF-40, cleaned long ago, long since naturally retoned ☆ 1851-O EF-40 ☆ 1852-O EF-40, dipped, now retoning ☆ 1853 Arrows and Rays. EF-45 ☆ 1853-O Arrows and Rays. EF-40, dipped long ago, now retoned ☆ 1854 Arrows. EF-40 ☆ 1854-O Arrows. EF-45 ☆ 1855-O Arrows. EF-40, dipped long ago ☆ 1856 AU-50 ☆ 1856-O EF-45, dipped long ago ☆ 1857 EF-40 ☆ 1857-O EF-40, lightly cleaned some time ago ☆ 1858 EF-45 ☆ 1858-O AU-50, dipped ☆ 1859 EF-40 ☆ 1859-O EF-40 ☆ 1859-S EF-40, cleaned long ago ☆ 1860 EF-40, cleaned long ago ☆ 1860-O EF-40, cleaned long ago ☆ 1860-S EF-45, cleaned long ago, now nicely retoned ☆ 1861 AU-50, dipped ☆ 1861-O EF-40 ☆ 1862 EF-40 ☆ 1862-S EF-40, faintly granular surfaces ☆ 1863 EF-40 ☆ 1863-S EF-40, "broken" S mintmark ☆ 1864 VF-35 ☆ 1864-S EF-40. Die chip atop D in DOL ☆ 1865 EF-45 ☆ 1865-S EF-45 ☆ 1866 Motto. EF-40, cleaned long ago, long since retoned ☆ 1867 AU-50, dipped ☆ 1867-S EF-40 ☆ 1868 AU-50, dipped long ago, long since retoned ☆ 1868-S EF-40 ☆ 1869-S AU-50 ☆ EF-40, cleaned long ago ☆ 1870 EF-40 ☆ 1870-S EF-40, lightly cleaned long ago ☆ 1871 EF-40 ☆ 1871-S EF-45 ☆ 1872 AU-50, dipped, retoning nicely ☆ 1872-S EF-45 ☆ 1873 No Arrows. Close 3. EF-40 ☆ 1873-S Arrows. EF-45 ☆ 1874-S Arrows. EF-45 ☆ 1875 EF-45 ☆ 1875-CC EF-45 ☆ 1875-S AU-50, dipped ☆ 1876 AU-55, prooflike. Variety with heavy diagonal die lines through bottom of Liberty's skirt and shield ☆ 1877 AU-53. Also included is an 1861 half dollar with a counterstamp from L. DEIMEL on the obverse, host coin nice deep golden gray AU-50 or marginally better. A nice group that is definitely worthy of in-person examination. Housed in two Whitman "Book Shelf" albums. (Total: 66 pieces)

Mint State 1841 Half Dollar



531 **1841 MS-62 (PCGS).** Pearlescent gray and lively light gold toning on satiny, lustrous surfaces, somewhat subdued but visually attractive nonetheless. A pleasing example of a date that is considered to be common, but when Mint State 1841 half dollars are the topic of discussion, this date is seen to be anything but common! For reference we note the PCGS *Population Report* shows just 14 examples of the date at MS-62—as here—or finer, the best of the bunch at the MS-65 level. Common? Not in Mint State!

PCGS Population: 2; 12 finer (MS-65 finest).

532 **Group of About Uncirculated half dollars:** ☆ 1941-O ☆ 1844-O ☆ 1845-O ☆ 1848 ☆ 1848-O ☆ 1849. Some have been lightly cleaned long ago. In-person inspection is recommended. (Total: 6 pieces)



533 **1842-O Medium Date, Large Letters. Reverse of 1842. AU-58 (PCGS).** This lustrous piece retains the vast majority of its mint frost, enough that some might call it full Mint State. PCGS was certainly either right on the mark or conservative when evaluating this particular piece. Contact marks are seen in the fields, particularly on the obverse. The striking is quite sharp, and the piece is pleasing overall.

On the obverse a die crack is seen at stars 12 and 13.

The *Guide Book* suggests that 203,000 were made of the 1842-O Small Date with Small Letters, and 754,000 were made of the 1842-O Medium Date (as offered here). However, we rather imagine that this is a Walter Breen guess from reviewing delivery dates and jumping to a conclusion. In our view the 1842-O Small Date is significantly rarer than these ratios suggest.

Rare 1842-O Half Dollar
Small Date, Small Letters



534 **1842-O Small Date, Small Letters. AU-50.** Overall a nice coin, cleaned long ago, but this comment could probably be made for many pieces in other collections as well. Delicate gold toning over silvery surfaces. Fairly well struck except at the centers. Overall the piece presents a very handsome appearance.

Among circulated Liberty Seated half dollars the 1842-O Small Date, Small Letters has always been a key issue. The present coin will be just right for any number of specialists.

535 **Trio of Liberty Seated half dollars:** ☆ 1844 WB-102. Repunched 18. EF-45. Mixture of bluish gray with splashes of iridescent blue ☆ 1857-S WB-101. Normal Date. EF-45. Lightly cleaned long ago ☆ 1858-S WB-103. 8 in Rock. AU-50. Cleaned at one time. (Total: 3 pieces)

3600

Famous 1844-O Variety
Double Punched Date



536 **1844-O Doubled Date. EF-45.** Medium yellow and heather toning over silver surfaces. Nicely struck. A very beautiful specimen of one of the most spectacularly doubled dates in all of American numismatics. The four-digit logotype was first impressed far too high and well into the rock on which Miss Liberty sits. The error was realized, and a second effort was made, punching the date in the correct position.

This specimen is in high enough grade to show the details vividly, but is short of Mint State, thus making it quite affordable.

537 **Trio of certified Liberty Seated half dollars:** ☆ 1845 AU-58 (NGC). Pale silver gray over lustrous surfaces with iridescent orange at the devices ☆ 1846-O Medium Date. AU-55 (PCGS). Lustrous golden gray with splashes of sea green and rose-gray at the peripheries ☆ 1850-O AU-50 (PCGS). Mixture of reddish gray frost over both surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Exceptional Uncirculated 1846/6 Half Dollar

6 Over "Lazy" 6

Solitary Mint State Specimen Certified by PCGS



(2x photo)

538 **1846 6 over Horizontal 6. MS-62 (PCGS).** A lovely Mint State coin, this piece adds quality to the equation and is a treat to the eye. Medium silver gray with a wealth of deep orange and gold that gathers at the rims, and with underlying lustre that adds greatly to the overall appeal. Sharply struck and with the all-important horizontal or "lazy" 6 boldly visible under the existing upright 6, making for one of the greatest curiosities in the half dollar series. By the way, the present MS-62 specimen is the *only example of the variety* certified by PCGS in *any* Mint State grade!

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

We are not quite sure how this variety was created, as generally a four-digit logotype was used to impress the date. It could be for this particular die a three-digit logotype was employed, then the fourth was added separately, horizontally, then corrected. For many years this has been on the "must have" list of specialists in the series. Rarely is one this nice offered.

1846 6 Over Horizontal 6

Spectacular Error



539 **1846 6 over Horizontal 6. AU-55.** A lovely specimen with light magenta and blue toning over deeply lustrous surfaces. The error feature is prominent, with the final vertical 6 being over an earlier horizontal 6. This variety joins the 1844-O doubled date for laurels among spectacular Mint goofs of the era.



540 **1846 6 over Horizontal 6. EF-45.** It is quite amazing to have *three* examples of the famous 1846 over Horizontal 6 half dollar in the same sale. The present piece is a lovely example for the grade, light gray and lilac toning, and with very bold definition of the date punching. A later die state than the preceding, with some interesting cud breaks on the outer *rim* beneath the 46 of the date but not extending into the dentils. Also, a horizontal die crack extends from the dentils near 5:30 and reaches out to the base of the 6 in the date. Presumably, the die was retired not soon afterward. While there are many rare varieties among Liberty Seated half dollars, not that many are "story coins," as here.

Finest NGC 1846-O Tall Date 50¢

From the Pryor Collection



10000

(2x photo)

541 **1846-O Tall Date. MS-63 (NGC).** The James Bennett Pryor Collection yielded two incredible examples of the famous 1846-O Tall Date, this and the following lot. In 1996 the present coin was described as:

Sharp strike.

Satiny white with scattered marks. A touch of deep amber toning is noted below Liberty's foot, at the right end of the rock.

Early die state. No clash marks or cracks are noted, except for one extremely faint crack through stars on the left to Liberty's head.

The 1846-O Tall Date is a classic rarity of long standing, and even an Extremely Fine coin would be memorable. However, the Pryor Collection piece is far beyond that.

In their book, *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars,* Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert state that only one (certified in 1993) Mint State example of this variety is known. This and the following lot provide the specialist with two additional Mint State examples of this rarity.

Today, it is even more important than in yesteryear, for there are more collectors, more connoisseurs, and the value of Liberty Seated rarities is more greatly appreciated. No doubt this piece will repose as the *ultimate* 1846-O in any advanced specialized collection.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

In 1846 the punching of dies was very curious at the Philadelphia Mint (where dies for branch mints were created as well). In various series there are different sizes, some of which are clearly delineated, as here, and also with the copper cents, and others of which are sometimes given confused descriptions (such as among certain gold coins).

From Superior Galleries' 1975 ANA Convention Sale, August 1975, Lot 563; Bowers and Merena's sale of the James Bennett Pryor Collection, January 1996, Lot 125.

Important 1846-O Tall Date Half Dollar

Mint State, From the Pryor Collection



7400

(2x photo)

542 **1846-O Tall Date. MS-62 (NGC).** A lovely Mint State specimen of one of the better known rarities from the early Liberty Seated era, this coin traces its pedigree to the James Bennett Pryor Collection and, before that, the 1975 ANA sale. In the Pryor Collection it was described as follows:

Slightly weak strike at the center of the reverse.

Slightly prooflike satin lustre beneath pale golden brown toning.

The obverse crack of the previous lot is slightly more advanced. A few faint reverse cracks are present.

Several different size digits were employed throughout the 1840s. In very general terms the Medium Date varieties are similar to early issues of the 1840s while the Tall Date variety is more like the later issues of the decade.

In its time the Pryor Collection was one of the landmark events, today still remembered in the annals of half dollar lore. The combination of exceptionally high grade plus incredible pedigree come together to yield another fantastic opportunity. How remarkable it is to have two landmark pieces in the same sale!

NGC Census: 1; 1 finer (MS-63).

J. V. McDermott to Ray Pohler; Superior Galleries' 1975 ANA Convention Sale, August 1975, Lot 573; purchased from Floyd Farley, July 11, 1989; Bowers and Merena's sale of the James Bennett Pryor Collection, January 1996, Lot 126.

Another Rare 1846-O Half Dollar

Tall Date Numerals

Sole Mint State Specimen Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

543 **1846-O Tall Date. MS-62 (PCGS).** A marvelous specimen, this 1846-O Tall Date half dollar has everything a connoisseur could wish for—sharp striking on all details, lustrous fields, and delicate toning, in this case mainly light brown, faint gold, and magenta. The present specimen, while "just" MS-62, is the *only* example of this elusive and prized date to be called Mint State by PCGS to date!

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.



544 **1846-O Tall Date. EF-40 (PCI).** Deep gray toning, somewhat mottled. Fairly well struck. Evidences of light wear as normal for the assigned grade.

Remarkable 1847/6 Overdate

Prime Rarity



545 **1847/6 Net EF-40, sharpness of EF-45.** Lightly cleaned. There are not many examples of the 1847/6 in existence, and often *more than a year* will pass between offerings of them. Accordingly, it is marvelous that the present sale has multiples! This coin is light silver with some hints of gold, lustre still remaining in some areas. The striking of the stars is weak at the left obverse border.

The true rarity of the 1847/6 should be considered at length, then an appropriate bid placed on one in the present sale.

Very Rare 1847/6 Half Dollar



546 **1847/6 EF-45.** A very attractive coin, although cleaned at an earlier time. Light gray surfaces with some hints of magenta, over sharply struck features. Some edge bumps are seen on the reverse. The half dollar specialist will view this as an incredibly important opportunity.

Choice Mint State 1850 Half Dollar



547 **1850 MS-63 (PCGS).** Imbued with rich electric lilac and rose highlights. A lovely specimen with sharp details on lustrous surfaces, and with minute die striae visible from the finishing processes; perhaps the die striations were either not completely understood or considered as part of the grade. A few scattered marks are seen here and there, but in our view this piece is choice for the assigned grade.

PCGS Population: 7; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

The four-digit date logotype is punched lightly into this coin, not unusual across different denominations for this year, perhaps indicating a technique employed by a specific person in that department. On the reverse there are some curious raised areas within the shield, seen on other combinations with this die.

but quite interesting when viewed under magnification. Some delicate cracks are seen among the letters. It is likely that this die was relapped, counting for the striation marks, for a few vertical shield elements have been polished away, and the entire plane surface is somewhat prooflike.

548 **1850 AU-58.** Silvery surfaces, well struck, with some hints of gold. A very attractive example of this scarce low-mintage issue. Cleaned some time ago, and also with some scattered marks, particularly in the obverse field.

549 **1851 Normal Date. EF-45.** Lilac toning over surfaces that retain lustre, particularly in protected areas. Very well struck. A nice example of this issue.



550 **1852 AU-55 (PCGS).** A handsome specimen with light gray toning highlighted with gold and magenta, well struck, and with excellent eye appeal. An especially nice example of this rare date, one of 77,130 circulation strike half dollars to make it off the coining presses in Philadelphia in 1852. An elusive and greatly respected date in all grades, especially at choice AU or finer.



551 **1852 AU-55.** Light silver surfaces with much retained lustre. Well struck with a wealth of design detail, including at the centers. Scarce in all grades, a key to the series.

Choice 1853 Half Dollar
Arrows and Rays



552 **1853 Arrows and Rays. MS-64 (NGC).** Lustrous silver surfaces with hints of gold around the borders. One year type with arrowheads at the date and rays around the eagle on the reverse.

A late die state combination, the present coin displays cracks around much of the border, particularly at the left. On the reverse scattered light cracks are seen through most of the letters.

Exceptional 1854 Half Dollar
Needle-Sharp Strike



553 **1854 Arrows. MS-64 (NGC).** Richly lustrous with light golden toning, *a needle-sharp strike,* and superb eye appeal, this is truly an exceptional example—one that goes far beyond what is normally anticipated for something labeled "MS-64." Anyone forming a choice type set can rest upon this piece to illustrate the 1854/1855 design with arrowheads at the date and without rays on the reverse.

Beautiful 1854-O Half Dollar
Sharply Struck



554 **1854-O Arrows. MS-64 (PCGS).** Here is another memorable half dollar of the 1854–1855 type, this from the New Orleans Mint. Well struck and lustrous, with light golden toning. A few toning flecks are seen here and there. The obverse die shows some interesting cracks at the lower right and others on the reverse. *Quality* is a word that describes this piece nicely.

Choice Mint State 1854-O 50¢



555 **1854-O Arrows. MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous silver surfaces with blushes of pale blue and golden brown on both sides. Sharply struck with excellent definition of the finer details, though the obverse die in particular was beginning to show signs of hard use. The die is beginning to exhibit flowlines and crumbling, mostly visible around the date. However, all devices show signs of having been strengthened. Crumbling in and around the digits of the date is rather dramatic under magnification, with the upper portions of the 5 and 4 both filled.

556 **Selection of Liberty Seated half dollars, all AU or so:** ☆ 1855 ☆ 1856-S ☆ 1861-S ☆ 1869 Repunched 18 ☆ 1874 ☆ 1874-S ☆ 1876-CC ☆ 1876-S ☆ 1878. In-person inspection is recommended for this group as most have minor surface problems. (Total: 9 pieces)

Incredible 1855-O Half Dollar



(2x photo)

557 **1855-O Arrows. MS-65 (PCGS).** Sharply struck, lustrous, and with superb eye appeal, this 1855-O half dollar joins others in this section of the catalogue in terms of truly special *quality*. The Liberty Seated half dollar specialist will revel in the opportunity, and the numismatist desiring to form a type set will want to be sure to latch onto a single example of his or her choice.

Another Memorable 1855-O Half Dollar

Gorgeous Gem Mint State



(2x photo)

558 **1855-O Arrows. MS-65 (NGC).** A lovely specimen with deep, rich lustre, sharp striking, and brilliance on both sides, this simply has to be one of the nicest 1855-O halves in existence.

Third High-Grade 1855-O Half Dollar



559 **1855-O Arrows. MS-63 (PCGS).** A choice Mint State example of the issue, not Condition Census, but still finer than typically seen. The toning is deep lilac-gray over lustrous surfaces and design elements that are fairly well struck, the area on the reverse to the lower left of the shield, at the eagle's leg, being an exception. Choice for the grade and certain to delight its next numismatic steward.

A heavy die crack runs from the obverse rim at 5:00 upward across the arrow to the right of the date and then into Liberty's garment where it terminates just below her right knee.

Fabulous 1855-S Half Dollar

Lustrous Mint State

Among Four Finest Graded by NGC



(2x photo)

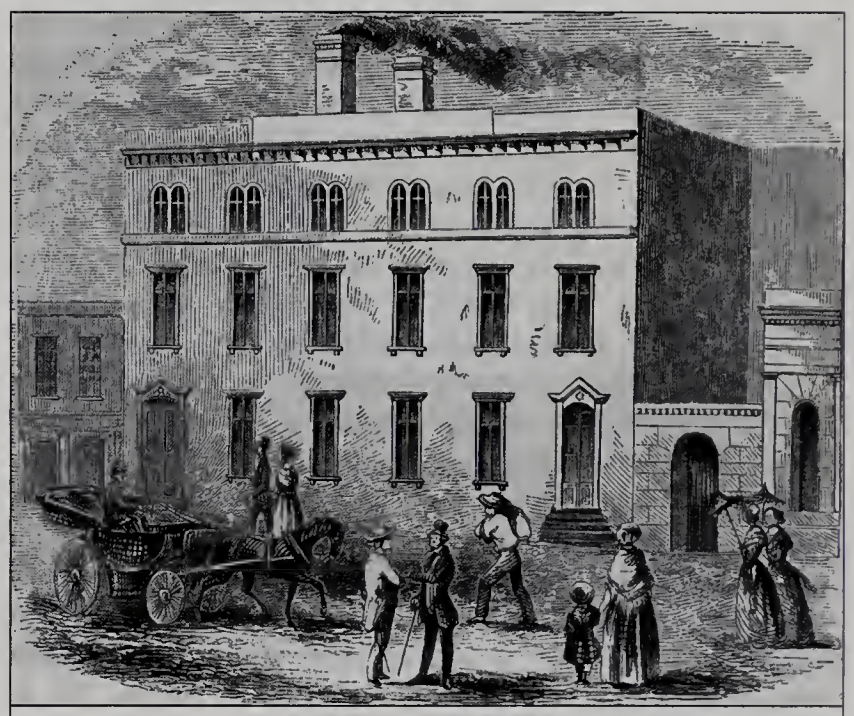
560 **1855-S Arrows. MS-61 (NGC).** A fabulous specimen of a great rarity, the 1855-S half dollar, the first of its denomination struck at the San Francisco Mint. The present piece is deeply lustrous, well struck, and has outstanding eye appeal. The surfaces are mostly brilliant silver, muted naturally to hints of blue and yellow and, toward the bottom of the obverse, magenta. The reverse is silver with some blue and gunmetal-gray. The 1855-S is a key issue in any and all grades. When encountered the typical piece is apt to show quite a bit of wear, from VG through VF. Even sharp EF coins are hard to find, never mind AU, and, typically, don't even think about Mint State! It is often a long time between offerings of a Mint State 1855-S half dollar, and it is even more unusual when the coin bespeaks the quality of the example offered here. Regarding quality, the present coin is bettered in the NGC *Census Report* by just three other examples of the date.

NGC Census: 1; 3 finer (MS-67 finest).

Key 1855-S Half Dollar



561 **1855-S Arrows. EF-45.** A fairly high-grade example of this key issue, but with some evidence, not bold, of its having been cleaned some time ago. The present toning is light gray and lilac. Some scattered marks are seen here and there. The present piece is fully equal to or even better than the typical 1855-S included in many of the larger collections formed over the years, and we suspect it will draw a fair amount of bidding activity as such.



The San Francisco Mint as it appeared during the early days of operation in 1854. The 1855-S With Arrows half dollars offered here were struck in this cramped facility, which would strike S-mintmark coins until the Second San Francisco Mint opened in the early 1870s. (*Annals of San Francisco*)

Landmark Proof 1856 Half Dollar

Superb Gem— Top NGC Grade



(2x photo)

562 **1856 Proof-67 ★ Cameo (NGC).** A superb specimen, brilliant mirror surfaces with frosty cameo contrast. The finest graded by NGC, and one of the finest we have ever seen.

Both obverse and reverse are sharply struck as one would anticipate for a Proof striking. The quality is unparalleled. Upon first look, a small mark is visible in the field near star 13. However, close inspection reveals that this is a *raised* mark on the field, and thus it is a characteristic of the obverse die which appears on every Proof half dollar of the date. Upon further study, one can find numerous raised artifacts in the devices, all similar in nature to that noted in the field. However, the surfaces are almost completely free of any marks that indicate anything other than the most careful handling of this piece from the time it was struck. The date exhibits a recut 6. There is nothing left to be desired except, perhaps, an adequate checkbook balance to buy it!

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

There is no recorded quantity for 1856 Proof coins struck, but it is likely that the mintage was somewhere in the range of 40 to 60—just a guess. The cataloguer cannot resist mentioning that in the 1950s I desired to collect one of each Proof Liberty Seated half dollar from 1839 to 1891. In Proof preservation the *Guide Book*, the standard source of reference and inspiration for just about everyone, commenced a listing with 1858. Accordingly, strangely and marvelously, Proofs before then had an uncertain market and were not particularly expensive! Although I never got all of the early dates from 1839 to 1857, I did get most. Those days seem dreamy in retrospect.

Superb Gem 1856-O Half Dollar

None Finer Graded



(2x photo)

563 **1856-O MS-66 (NGC).** Rich magenta, gray, blue, and iridescent toning over satiny lustre on the obverse. The reverse is an iridescent blend of these colors and more. The striking is sharp on both sides. A splendid example of a New Orleans issue that is available enough in lower grades but seldom seen in superb gem preservation.

NGC Census: 4; none finer.

Rare 1858 Proof Half Dollar

Estimated Mintage: 210



564 **1858 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Offered is the rarest of all Proof half dollars from 1858 to date, this having an estimated mintage of just 210 coins, of which significantly fewer exist today. The present piece has attractive blue, green, red, and gold iridescent toning over deep mirror surfaces and is one of the more appealing examples we have seen. For the Liberty Seated specialist this is a rare find, perhaps with a market value of just a few thousand dollars

offering in our opinion an excellent opportunity. It really is amazing how some rarities are inexpensive and others much more expensive. Perhaps while the market is not looking you can capture this for your own.

Mint State 1858-S Half Dollar



565 **1858-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Intense lilac and gray toning over well-struck surfaces. Boldly struck with full, crisp design elements on both sides. One of the higher level certified examples of the date to come on the market in recent times; indeed, only a dozen 1858-S half dollars have received finer grades than the present coin from PCGS.

PCGS Population: 3; 12 finer (MS-66 finest).

Condition Census 1859 Half Dollar

Iridescent MS-66



(2x photo)

566 **1859 MS-66 (NGC).** A high-quality example, nicely struck, of the 1859 half dollar. Splashes of gold, magenta, and blue toning are on both sides, occasionally sufficiently light that bright silver sheen is seen. A particularly nice example combining high grade and high eye appeal.

567 **1860 Net MS-60;** sharpness of MS-63 or perhaps even finer, but a few small areas of fine scratches are noted, similar to what is left by a careless attempt at spot removal. In addition, but not affecting the grade, are two small struck through areas on the reverse. Aside from the noted exceptions, the surfaces are remarkably clean for the grade. Lustrous and pleasing with soft rose toning.

Lovely 1861 C.S.A. Restrike Half Dollar

One of 500 Minted by J.W. Scott

Above Average Strike



(2x photo)

568 **1861 C.S.A. half dollar. Restrike. MS-62 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen of one of America's favorite coins, J.W. Scott & Company's 1879 restrike employing the reverse of the 1861 Confederate States of America half dollar stamped on a planed-down 1861-O regular issue half dollar taken from circulation. Accordingly, on all examples the grading is done by the reverse only, as the obverse always shows wear and is slightly flattened from the striking process.

The story of the 1879 restrike is fascinating, and is given below:

J.W. Scott and the CSA Restrikes

In early 1861, troops representing the state of Louisiana seized the federal New Orleans Mint, and on April 1 it came under control of the Confederate States of America. The staff and facilities remained intact, and the C.S.A. continued to operate the Mint for a time, using bullion and dies on hand to strike Liberty Seated half dollars and gold double eagles. Soon, the mint closed. For the rest of the de-

cade, continuing to 1878, it was used for storage, unofficial lodging by itinerants and tramps, and generally fell into disrepair. The building was poorly constructed to begin with, and in the 1850s a massive repair / restoration helped solve structural and other problems. In 1878 the mint was refurbished, and in 1879 coinage resumed, consisting mostly of Morgan silver dollars, punctuated by lower quantities of other silver denominations and scattered gold $5, $10, and $20.

The Confederate States of America did not have its own coinage with distinctive designs, or so numismatists thought. Then in the early 1870s, in a scenario that remains confused to the present day, Dr. Edward Maris, well known numismatist with a specialty in copper cents and the coins of New Jersey, came into possession of 11, perhaps 12, curious copper-nickel cents bearing CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA on the obverse. This inscription surrounded the so-called French Liberty Head portrait created in Philadelphia by Robert Lovett, Jr., and widely used for his store cards (advertising tokens) in 1860 and later on Civil War tokens. The popular story eliminated mention of Maris and stated that Lovett had been commissioned by the CSA to make dies for a cent, had struck 12 of them, but then fearful of reprisals, kept them in a drawer and did not pursue the contract further. He spent one by mistake at a bar, it came to the notice of coin dealer J.W. Haseltine, who recognized it as Lovett's work, and the story was learned. In 1874, Haseltine had local medalist Peter Krider make restrikes from the dies, which he had purchased from Lovett.

Then in 1879 came another surprise. After an article appeared in the *Philadelphia Public Record*, January 2, 1879, B.F. Taylor, M.D., of New Orleans, contacted E.L. Mason, Jr., Philadelphia coin dealer, to say he had an original 1861 Confederate States of America half dollar. He stated that four examples had been coined, that he had one, that one of the officers of the Confederate government was given another, another went to Professor Biddle of the University of Louisiana, and one to Dr. Ames of New Orleans

From Taylor, Mason acquired the coin and the reverse die used to strike it. He considered the two items to be of great value, and sought a buyer.

On May 20, 1879, a letter from Mason was read at the meeting of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, "offering to dispose of a Confederate silver half dollar; also the reverse die for the same." The existence of such a coin was not known or suspected earlier. In June 1879, in the first issue of *Mason's Coin Collectors' Herald*, Mason published details of the discovery.

Upon learning of this the editor of the *American Journal of Numismatics* suggested that: "This piece having been struck in the New Orleans Mint by government officers, with government tools, and on silver stolen from the United States, should be restored to its true ownership, and that it be placed in the Mint Cabinet. The obverse die, we hear, was claimed by the government; why not the reverse also?"

This spoilsport suggestion was not heeded, and Mason retained possession, seeking to sell the die and coin at a handsome profit. Investigation revealed that in 1861, A.H.M. Patterson had cut the die for a pattern half dollar, and that four pieces were struck. Apparently the die was cut too deeply for high-speed production, or at least this was the opinion of Philadelphia Mint spokesman Patterson Dubois who made this comment in a later article, in 1882.

No buyer was forthcoming. Finally, New York City dealer J.W. Scott purchased the coin and die. Seeking an opportunity for profit he decided to produce restrikes.

By 1879, the die had rusted in a few places, most notably at ER in AMERICA. With David Proskey's help, the rust was mostly polished from the die, and 500 white metal tokens were struck by Scott to assure that at least some pieces would be available in case the die broke when used to restrike half dollars. The other side of the store card was a new die with lettering describing the reverse., When no further deterioration occurred, Scott then moved on to the next phase of the plan. Half dollars dated 1861, said to have been of the 1861-O variety (but who knows?), recently taken from circulation, had the reverses drilled (word used by Scott) off, effectively removing the lettering and central design. The half dollars were placed in a collar to restrain lateral expansion, with the obverse of the coin placed on an accommodating surface, perhaps a piece of leather. The blank reverse was then struck with a Confederate die, creating a "Confederate half dollar."

With David Proskey taking care of operations, Scott began a marketing program in which these pieces were offered for sale. Scott soon advertised that his offering of restrikes was oversubscribed, and he drove home the point by saying he would pay a profit to buyers. However, apparently only a portion of the mintage was actually distributed, for in a mood of reflection years later in the 1920s, Proskey, the architect of the project, stated that unsold pieces were in Scott's inventory for many years thereafter

By the 1920s they seem to have been distributed extensively. Today, examples are widely scattered, come on the market one at a time, and are highly sought and prized. We handle perhaps a handful each year. For the full story of this interesting coin see Q. David Bowers' *More Adventures With Rare Coins*

569 1862 MS-62 (NGC). Sharply struck. Some scattered marks are seen, no doubt dictating the MS-62 designation. Silvery on both sides with splashes of gray and magenta around the borders, punctuated with blue. A very nice circulation strike 1862, one with eye appeal that goes beyond the assigned grading number.

570 1864 Proof-62 Cameo (PCGS). Brilliant silver surfaces at the center evolve to splashes of brown and blue at the borders, nice "album toning." Although some contact marks are present, the overall eye appeal of this piece is quite good, far finer than typically seen on a piece assigned the Proof-62 grade. The present coin embodies a scarce Proof (just 470 struck) together with a fairly elusive Civil War date. If you are building a type set and would like to have a very nice coin, but do not want to spend significantly more for a Proof-63 or Proof-64, the present piece would seem to fill the bill.

Superb Gem 1865 Half Dollar
Proof-67 Cameo
None Finer Graded



(2x photo)

571 1865 Proof-67 Cameo (NGC). No finer 1865 Cameo Proof has been seen by NGC, and there is only one other certified at this level. The present coin is probably unsurpassable on an absolute basis, as it is at once in a high grade, but also well struck and with gorgeous old-time iridescent toning, particularly at the borders. The connoisseur will want to bid liberally to take this beauty home.

NGC Census: 2; none finer within the designation.

572 **1866-S No Motto. VF-35.** Medium heather and gray surfaces with some areas of gunmetal-blue, over fairly well-struck details. A very nice example at this grade level of one of the key issues in the Liberty Seated series, a coin that will be just right for the majority of buyers.

Although a lot of emphasis is on Mint State coins these days, most serious numismatists in the Liberty Seated series aspire to obtain highly collectible issues in grades such as VF, EF, and AU. The reading of the *Gobrecht Journal* over a long period of years will reveal that only a handful of specialists have ever assembled Mint State collections. Instead, a coin such as this is where most of the action lies.

The present catalogue offers a field day for the enthusiast in this specialty, with rare dates, die varieties, and other interesting issues.

Gem Proof 1866 Half Dollar

First Year of Motto



573 **1866 Motto. Proof-65 (NGC).** A lovely example with toning that would be hard to equal and virtually impossible to improve upon—light silver and gold at the center changing to electric blue at the borders. Sharply struck. Pieces such as this are exceedingly difficult to find in today's market. We recommend a generous bid.



574 **1867 MS-62 (NGC).** A splendid specimen, another lovely piece from the James Bennett Pryor Collection. In 1996 this was described as:

Fully detailed strike.

Brilliant satin lustre with reflective fields. Pale golden brown with splashes of lilac and blue on the obverse. The reverse is lustrous pearl with pale gold along the periphery. A few minor obverse abrasions. The reverse graded separately is fully MS-65.

Very minor cracks. Just half of the normal drapery lines are visible.

Another sans drapery (or at least lacking much of it) issue made inadvertently by resurfacing the dies.

Today the desirability remains, infrequently do coins with the Pryor pedigree come on the market, as they are so widely dispersed. Liberty Seated specialists will delight in this and several other pieces sharing this famous pedigree.

NGC Census: 8; 12 finer (MS-65 finest).

From Stack's sale of March 1958, Lot 1256; Superior Galleries' 1975 ANA Convention sale, August 1975, Lot 644; Bowers and Merena's sale of the James Bennett Pryor Collection, January 1996, Lot 196

575 **1870 MS-62 (PCGS).** Lustrous with lightly blended blue and gold (primarily) toning. Well struck. Not at all easy to find in Mint State, the MS-62 designation may be an *advantage* as quite a few investors (in particular) completely overlook such listings. If you are not an investor, but simply want a very nice coin, check this out.

TRUSTED NAMES, FAMILIAR FACES DYNAMIC RESULTS!

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC RARITIES is a team of professionals who have over 250 years of combined experience in building meaningful collections and presenting numismatic auctions.

CONSIDER ANR if you have duplicates or a specialized collection that you wish to part with on the most favorable terms. Do you have high-grade U.S. type coins, patterns, Proof type, colonials, territorial gold, or superb date or variety runs of any American series? Our numismatic staff has unparalleled experience in these areas and others, and their expertise and friendly service will pay dividends to you and your family when the time comes to sell.

IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING SELLING YOUR COINS, call Rick Bagg or John Pack today for more information. We believe you'll be pleased with the excellent results and the superb personal service received from our expert staff. Our widely attended sales are held in major metropolitan areas and at important numismatic conventions throughout the year. One of our auctions is certain to be just right for showcasing your collection.

CALL TOLL FREE — 866-811-1804



Q. David Bowers, Numismatic Director · Christine Karstedt, President · Dr. Rick Bagg, Consignments · John Pack, Consignments · Frank Van Valen, Senior Numismatist · John Kraljevich, Research

Finest NGC 1870-CC Half Dollar

Splendid Mint State

From the Pryor Collection



(2x photo)

576 1870-CC MS-62 (NGC). This lovely specimen, the finest graded by NGC, traces its pedigree to the James Bennett Pryor Collection, January 1996, there described as follows:

Incredibly sharp strike right down to the individual lines in Liberty's sandal.

Prooflike russet surfaces with iridescent blue and green peripheral toning. Given the full prooflike nature of this coin along with the perfect die state, it is perhaps possible that this was intended as a Proof or Specimen striking to mark the opening of the Carson City Mint. Most likely the finest of only two or three known Mint State examples of this issue.

Perfect dies with no evidence of clash marks or die cracks. Approximately half of the outer drapery line is visible.

This coin is the stuff of which numismatic legends are made. A century from now numismatists yet unborn will marvel at the day in 1996 when this and other Carson City gems crossed the auction block, when mere money could be used to buy virtually priceless coins. Indeed, James Bennett Pryor considered this coin to be the capstone of his Liberty Seated collection.

Whatever you pay for this, you will have a treasure forever.

Following the discovery of the Comstock Lode in 1859, the Territory of Nevada became a Mecca for fortune seekers. In the 1860s Virginia City, Nevada, was one of the most thriving mining towns on the face of the earth. In the same decade the call came for the erection of a federal mint, and Carson City, located about 15 miles from the Comstock Lode, was selected. In 1870 it opened its doors for coinage, and from then until 1885 it produced silver and gold coins with "CC" mintmarks. Coinage was suspended in the latter year and was not resumed until 1889, after which production continued to 1893.

In the half dollar series Carson City produced issues only from 1870 through 1878 inclusive. The earlier issues in particular are very difficult to find today and in Mint State are exceedingly rare. In general, mintage figures of Carson City coins are lower than those of contemporary San Francisco issues, due in part to the disconcerting revelation that after the new San Francisco Mint opened in 1873, it was cheaper to ship silver to the San Francisco Mint for coinage and ship the finished coins back to Nevada, than it was to have the coins struck in nearby Carson City.

Sometimes when rarities are sold they stay off the market for a long time. In other instances they reappear, if not soon, then at least within a generation, as here. The present piece, representing the first year of issue of the Carson City Mint and a well known rarity besides, will be a feather in the numismatic cap of its lucky new owner.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

From Stack's sale of the Reed Hawn Collection, August 1973, Lot 248; Stack's, March 1984, Lot 725; Bowers and Merena's sale of the James Bennett Pryor Collection, January 1996, Lot 204.

Gem Proof 1871 Half Dollar

Superb Eye Appeal



577 1871 Proof-65 (NGC). Quality once again comes to the fore in this coin. While graded "only" Proof-65, the combination of grade plus eye appeal may well lift it above a standard Proof-65 valuation. Both obverse and reverse are toned a very nicely blended iridescent gold, blue, and gray, no doubt bespeaking careful preservation for many years in an old-time collection. The coin keeps its secret well, but the quality will be evident to all who view it.

Mint State 1871-CC Half Dollar

Classic Carson City Rarity



(2x photo)

578 **1871-CC MS-62 (PCGS).** A lovely Mint State piece, *highly prooflike,* particularly on the obverse. Well struck. Brilliant with a blush of gold and magenta toning. A spectacular example of this early Carson City half dollar issue, one that is seldom seen in Mint State, and then not with the eye appeal of the present piece. Much of the mintage for the date, comprising 153,950 pieces, went immediately into circulation without benefit of numismatic attention, which explains the near absence of Mint State 1871-CC half dollars that have come down to today's collectors. For the Liberty Seated specialist or the Carson City enthusiast this coin will indeed be a highlight of the present sale. In fact, the present coin is the *only* MS-62 example of the date seen by PCGS as of this writing, and just one specimen of the date has been deemed finer than the present Uncirculated specimen by that firm!

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (MS-64).

Large CC mintmark, first C noticeably lower than second C, both chiefly centered over the F in HALF below, back edge of first C just left of upright of F.



579 **1871-CC Net EF-40, sharpness of AU-55.** A very attractive specimen, sharply defined, silver in color, with delicate gray toning. Under magnification microscopic porosity is seen, perhaps indicating recovery from a ground hoard, not that most would notice. This rare 1871-CC half dollar invites in-person inspection. To see it is to want to own it, especially if you are seeking an example in or near this grade range.

Large CC mintmark, first C slightly lower than second C, back edge of first C even with right end of upper serif of L in HALF.

Choice Mint State 1872-CC Half Dollar

A Notable Rarity

None Certified Finer by PCGS



(2x photo)

580 **1872-CC MS-63 (PCGS).** Satiny and lustrous pearlescent gray and gold surfaces. A touch of striking weakness at the eagle's dexter leg is the only detriment worthy of note here, a testimony to the quality of the present coin. Though 257,000 half dollars dated 1872-CC were struck, most went immediately into commerce—

a familiar litany for many CC and S-Mint issues of the era—with few examples of the date escaping heavy commercial exposure except by a matter of the greatest coincidence, as so few collectors were active during the era, and those who were hardly heeded the tiny mintmarks on the coins in their collections. This lovely 1872-CC half dollar is tied for finest graded of the date by PCGS, no mean feat itself, and will draw strong bidding activity as a result.

PCGS Population: 5; none finer.

Large CC mintmark, first C marginally higher than second C, first C chiefly centered over space between L and F below, serif of first C directly under tip of arrow feather above.

Another 1872-CC Half Dollar

Likewise Mint State!
Among Half Dozen Finest Graded by PCGS



20K

581 **1872-CC MS-60 (PCGS).** Satiny and lustrous silver gray with rich golden highlights. The present piece on its own would be a highlight in any offering, as, indeed, it is here. Graded "just" MS-60, this coin has the eye appeal of a piece at least two levels higher, as even a quick examination will reveal. Sharply struck, lustrous, and well worth owning. If you can buy it at an "MS-60 price," you have our congratulations in advance!

PCGS Population: 1; 5 finer (MS-63 finest).

Large CC mintmark, first C marginally lower than second C, first C chiefly centered over space between L and F below, serif of first C directly under tip of arrow feather above, second C nearly a letter's width from first C.

Lustrous 1872-CC Half Dollar



582 **1872-CC AU-53.** A lustrous specimen, challenging the Mint State level somewhat, but not reaching it. Still, the majority of frost is still visible, and the coin is somewhat prooflike on the obverse. The overall color is silver with a few hints of olive and magenta. Although this is not at the Uncirculated level, we don't believe that many examples of the date classified as AU-53 will measure up to this coin's overall quality.

Large CC mintmark, first C noticeably lower than second C, back curve of first C chiefly centered over space between L and F below, tip of arrow feather just right of center of first C.



583 **1872-CC EF-45.** Brilliant with areas of lustre still remaining. Somewhat prooflike in the obverse field. Lightly cleaned some time ago, but fairly attractive overall. A coin which invites inspection.

Large CC mintmark, first C marginally lower than second C, first C chiefly centered over space between L and F below, serif of first C directly under tip of arrow feather above, second C nearly a letter's width from first C.

Rare 1873 Half Dollar Variety

No Arrows, Open 3



584 **1873 No Arrows, Open 3. Net EF-40, sharpness of EF-45.** Lightly cleaned. A small dig is seen on the reverse. All of this said, we turn to the other aspects of the piece. The surfaces are light gray with some suggestions of gold. The striking is fairly good. The cachet of this particular issue lies in the date numerals. It is of the Open 3 style, given a great premium in the *Guide Book* (check it out) and, most probably, an erroneous distribution of mintage figures (probably suggested by Walter Breen). If the relative difference in pricing holds, then certainly the difference in mintage must have been far greater.

The present piece is indeed elusive and will be especially appealing to enthusiasts in the Liberty Seated half dollar field.

5800

Remarkably Beautiful 1873-CC Half Dollar
No Arrows, Superb Eye Appeal



10K fo book (2x photo)

585 **1873-CC No Arrows AU-58 (NGC).** Well struck and highly lustrous, retaining virtually all of its original mint frost. The color is bright silver with delicate toning. Very pleasing to the eye, a coin which from the standpoint of overall appeal can easily eclipse some classified in the Mint State category. From a mintage for the date of 122,500 pieces, most of which circulated heavily, and some of which was probably melted at the Carson City Mint later in the year when the new coins with arrows at the date appeared. While it would be nicer to have one certified significantly higher, we dare say that this piece is a good candidate for anyone seeking a lower level *Mint State* specimen. We invite you to check it carefully and believe you will agree.

NGC Census: 5; 8 finer (MS-67 finest).



586 **1873-CC No Arrows. EF-45.** Nicely struck and very attractive. Medium silver surfaces with light gray and bold gold highlights. Much lustre still remains. There are some contact marks above the date, which are herewith mentioned for accuracy.

Small CC mintmark, both letters over the F in HALF, about a letter's width apart and high near the feathers and branch above.

587 **1873 Arrows. AU-58.** Richly lustrous with light brown and golden toning, well struck, and very attractive. Just short of Mint State, possibly even at that level in the eyes of some. A very attractive example of this short-lived design with arrows at the date.

Memorable 1873-CC Half Dollar
Choice Mint State
Among Ten Finest Certified by PCGS



15.5K
~~20K~~

(2x photo)

588 **1873-CC Arrows. MS-63 (PCGS).** A very attractive Mint State specimen, visually very nice. Both obverse and reverse are well struck and deeply lustrous, silver with some splashes of magenta and gold around the border. We will again use that rare term, *undergraded,* and suggest that it might be called MS-64. You pay your money and you make your choice, so the determination is up to you. However, to our eyes it is one of the nicest 1873-CC half dollars we have ever seen.

PCGS Population: 3; 7 finer (MS-66 finest).

Large CC mintmark, first C slightly lower than second C, back curve of first C over upper right serif of L below, serif of first C directly under extreme tip of arrow feather above.

Another Splendid 1873-CC Half Dollar

Arrows at Date

The Eliasberg Coin



(2x photo)

589 **1873-CC Arrows. MS-63 (NGC).** A lovely example from the Eliasberg Collection, 1997, Lot 2026, there described as: "Prooflike obverse. Another notable specimen of an issue that is a significant rarity in all levels of Mint State. Some contact marks are seen in the obverse consistent with the grade. Light golden toning." We regarded this one highly in 1997, and we still feel the same some seven-plus years later. Indeed, NGC has similar feelings, as that firm has certified just five 1873-CC Arrows half dollars finer than the present coin, the finest of those called MS-65. Simply put, a nice coin for the grade!

NGC Census: 4; 5 finer (MS-65 finest).

Large CC mintmark, first C marginally lower than second C, first C chiefly centered over space between L and F below, serif of first C directly under tip of arrow feather above

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, Lot 2026.

A Third 1873-CC Half Dollar

With Arrows, Mint State



(2x photo)

590 **1873-CC Arrows. MS-61 (PCGS).** Beyond incredible is this offering, a third example of the 1873-CC half dollar, arrows at date, also in Mint State! This coin has lovely satiny lustre, is well struck, and is also a treat to the eye. Light lilac patination, evenly dispersed, is seen on both sides. Again this coin is conservatively graded. If all MS-61 coins were this nice there would be no need to collect MS-63! For the record, fewer than a dozen 1873-CC Arrows half dollars have been graded finer than the present coin by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 2; 11 finer (MS-66 finest).

Large CC mintmark, first C slightly lower than second C, back curve of first C over upper right serif of L below, serif of first C directly under extreme tip of arrow feather above.

Lustrous 1873-CC Half Dollar

Arrows at Date, Lovely AU



591 **1873-CC Arrows. AU-58 (PCGS).** So that's where all the 1873-CC half dollars are! Again we present a lovely specimen, this one graded as AU-58, well struck, and with superb visual appeal, a truly marvelous piece. Again we ponder the grading on this coin, stating that if all AU-58 coins were this nice there would be a rush to collect examples at this level. In the marketplace one must pick and choose, as is well known, but the choice is made easy with a specimen such as this.

PCGS Population: 8; 14 finer (MS-66 finest).

Large CC mintmark, first C slightly lower than second C, back curve of first C over upper right serif of L below, serif of first C directly under extreme tip of arrow feather above.



592 **1873-CC Arrows. EF-40.** Silver surfaces, lightly cleaned some time ago, now silver and medium gray. Lustre remains in some areas. A final example of this key Carson City half dollar.

Large CC mintmark, first C slightly lower than second C, back curve of first C over upper right serif of L below, serif of first C directly under extreme tip of arrow feather above.

Prooflike Mint State 1874-CC Half Dollar

The Pryor Collection Specimen



(2x photo)

593 **1874-CC MS-61 (NGC).** A lovely specimen, prooflike, beautiful, and rare. From the James Bennett Pryor Collection, 1996, there described:

Full strike save for very slight weakness on the upper hair curls.

Prooflike, the obverse very deeply so. A superb specimen, perhaps made as a presentation piece. The surfaces are mostly brilliant, overlaid with delicate lilac.

Perfect dies.

A superb specimen of a formidable rarity, the final entry in the "impossible" section of Carson City Mint State half dollars (later ones are not as rare, although the 1878-CC mounts a strong challenge).

Once sold, an offer of twice the price realized probably could not secure a duplicate the morning after the sale.

Slight doubling is noted on some legend letters. A diagonal die line from the denticles over the left edge of O in OF, extends through the final S of STATES to the lower right base of E.

Again, the opportunity to acquire a recognized rarity in this elegant condition, plus the quintessence of one of the finest pedigrees in American numismatic history, yields a remarkable opportunity.

NGC Census: 2; 9 finer (MS-64 finest).

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Norweb Collection, Part III, November 1988, Lot 3224; Bowers and Merena's sale of the James Bennett Pryor Collection, January 1996, Lot 222

Second Highly Important 1874-CC 50¢

Mintage Just 59,000



594 **1874-CC Arrows. AU-53 (PCGS).** A lovely example, silvery surfaces with some splashes of brown, of this highly important rarity. Indeed, with a mintage of just 59,000, the 1874-CC is second only to the 1870-CC in this category. Most cabinets either lack an 1874-CC or, if they have one, it is apt to be VF or EF. The present piece is significantly above average.

Superb Gem 1877 Half Dollar



595 **1877 MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant with virtually three dimensional frost, overlaid with delicate toning. Well struck. As nice a circulation strike 1877 as we can recall seeing. A truly premium coin from the standpoint of quality. As such, this piece is deserving of a very strong bid by the connoisseur. Please cast standard valuations aside when contemplating the acquisition of this *special* piece.

596 **1877-CC MS-62.** Brilliant with most mint lustre still remaining. Prominent die striae on obverse and reverse indicate that this is an early impression from the die. A nice example of the issue.

597 **1877-S MS-63.** A splendid specimen with rich satiny lustre. A coin that is just right for the Liberty Seated specialist or for inclusion in a type set.



598 **1878-CC VF-20, sharpness of VF-30, porosity.** Medium gray and gold toning. An attractive example despite some porosity, not readily noticeable except under magnification. A scarce variety in all conditions, this piece is attractive enough to generate excellent bidding competition.

It would be easier of course just to simply give a numerical grade for this and other Liberty Seated half dollars and let it go at that. However, we feel that informed buyers appreciate the additional descriptions.

Famous 1878-S Rarity
The Key to the Series









72K

599 **1878-S MS-63 (PCGS).** A fabulous specimen of one of the best known rarities in the series, this 1878-S combines high grade, extremely sharp strike, and superb eye appeal. Obverse and reverse are prooflike and silvery with blushes of heather and gold, interspersed with some freckled blue and magenta. The piece is, indeed, as pretty as a picture. The fame of the 1878-S, of which just 12,000 were minted, is long enduring. Indeed, the appearance of a coin of this date and mint in an old-time sale was an opportunity for jubilation, this in an era when many rarities of our present day were not particularly showcased. Over a long period of years the number of equivalent 1878-S half dollars passing through our hands has been no more than a handful—and the same can be said for the graders at PCGS(see the population note below). Typically they are only encountered when great collections cross the auction block. It is quite likely that many were melted, or there is some explanation, as despite the low mintage, the rarity seems to be even greater than indicated. In a sale laden with highlights, rarities, seldom-seen grades, and other numismatically appealing pieces, this 1878-S stands tall and proud in the front row!

PCGS Population: 5; 6 finer (MS-66 finest).

600 **Trio of half dollars** ☆ 1879 VF-25. Mixture of pale iridescent toning over both surfaces ☆ 1881 AU-50. Lustrous with splashes of blue and golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1891 AU-58. Semi reflective fields with splashes of rich gold and blue at the rims. (Total: 3 pieces)

Gem Proof 1880 Half Dollar





601 **1880 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** Brilliant at the center changing to gold and blue at the border, the superb "halo" or "album" toning so highly desired. Watch this one go!

PCGS Population: 8; 3 finer within the designation (Proof-66 finest).

Prooflike 1880 Half Dollar

Finest and Only Graded by NGC



602 **1880 MS-66 PL (NGC).** Brilliant with lustrous surfaces, highly prooflike. The only piece graded MS-66 PL by NGC, with none finer. The low mintage figures of both circulation strikes and Proofs of the 1879-1891 era have drawn many to this section of Liberty Seated coinage, perhaps a specialty within a specialty. As a general rule, high-grade Mint State coins are rarer than high-grade Proofs, and as such the present piece is a remarkable opportunity.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within designation.

603 **1880 MS-60.** A very nice example at this grade level. Some hairlines are seen in the field, defining the grade, and a few scattered marks are seen as well. The details are needle sharp in their definition, the fields are mostly prooflike, and some halo-like blue and magenta toning is around the borders. This is a very attractive example of this well-known low-mintage date. While Proofs come on the market with some regularity, attractive lower range Mint State coins do not.

604 **1882 MS-62 PL.** Brilliant with a hint of gray toning. Highly prooflike surfaces. Some lines here and there as expected for the grade. Cameo frost in devices and lettering. A very attractive circulation strike example of this low-mintage issue.

605 1883 MS-60. Sharply struck and very lustrous, mostly frosty rather than prooflike. Some hairlines in the field are accounted for in the grade. Silver surfaces with a hint of champagne toning. Another opportunity to acquire a seldom seen Mint State example of a low-mintage half dollar.

606 1884 AU-58. Silver surfaces, a mixture of frost and mirror qualities. Sharply struck. Some rainbow iridescent toning around the border. A lovely example that is either a high level circulated coin as described here, or a low level Mint State. A pleasing choice for anyone interested in a piece at this grade level.

Iridescent 1885 Half Dollar



607 **1885 MS-65 (PCGS).** Iridescent toning on obverse and reverse, generally magenta gray at the center, changing to blue, then to magenta and gold, this depicting the obverse. The reverse is mostly silver at the center, changing to gold and blue. Coins with iridescent toning as this often play to an especially wide audience, quite in contrast to the situation a generation ago when "brilliant is best" was the prevailing theme.

PCGS Population: 10; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).

608 **1885 MS-62.** Lustrous and attractive. Some hairlines here and there and some scattered marks are accounted for by the grade. Overall the piece is very handsome, a high quality example of a low-mintage issue for which Proofs come on the market with regularity, but for which circulation strikes are rarely seen.

609 **1886 MS-62 PL.** Mostly brilliant silver surfaces. Some marks and hairlines are expected at this grade level. Very sharply struck. A very rare coin in Mint State. Another coin that will attract great bidding attention, as will many of the Liberty Seated issues in the present offering.

610 **1887 AU-50.** Light gold and iridescent toning. A high-grade circulated example of this very scarce date.

611 **1888 MS-63 (NGC).** Lustrous silver surfaces with some contact marks here and there. Nicely struck. Delicately toned silver gray with some splashes of gold. A very nice example for which the market value seems less than it should be. In a word, a *nice* item to own.

612 1889 AU-58. Iridescent halo toning around silver centers. Yet another seldom seen, low-mintage Liberty Seated half dollar. Another opportunity for the specialist.

613 **1890 MS-61 PL.** Mottled light brown toning over well-struck surfaces. Somewhat prooflike. Another low-mintage Liberty Seated date. The extensive selection of *circulation strike,* low-mintage issues in this catalogue is more unusual than would be a run of Proofs.

Gem Proof 1892 Half Dollar

Plus More



614 **1892 Proof-64.** The cataloguer (QDB) has classified this as Proof-64, although it has not been certified. A few marks are seen on Miss Liberty's cheek, but apart from that, the overall quality is as fine as could be expected from *Proof-67.* Beyond that the eye appeal is not only desirable, it is almost *incredible.* Deep mirror surfaces on both sides are accented by very delicate golden and blue toning, as pretty as a picture. In fact, we have never seen any Barber half dollar of any date or mint that has nicer artistic appeal. It will be quite interesting to see how this does when it crosses the auction block. The present piece will satisfy on several grounds, as a high numerical grade, plus the first year of issue, plus incredible eye appeal.

In 1892 the new Liberty Head design by Chief Engraver Charles E. Barber was launched, this after the Treasury Department made an effort to secure outside artists to redesign the several Liberty Seated denominations. Barber seems to have copied the head used on certain French coins

The mintage of this year amounted to 1,245 silver Proof sets, possibly in anticipation of a strong demand for the new design in combination with the thought that such pieces would be sold at the Worlds Columbian Exposition (which did not open to the public until 1893).

615 **Trio of Barber half dollars:** ☆ 1892 AU-58. Olive-gray over lustrous surfaces with rose, gold, and sea green highlights ☆ 1907-D AU-55. Lustrous silver gray at the centers with deeper toning at the rims ☆ 1911 AU-55. Medium gray with deep olive-gray toning mottled across the surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Gem 1894-O Half Dollar



(2x photo)

616 **1894-O MS-65 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen in an *old* PCGS holder, churned out a number of years ago, before the so-called "grade inflation" of the present era. Accordingly, some viewers of the present coin have suggested that if recertified it might qualify at MS-66. Who knows? In any event, the coin is the coin is the coin, and it stands tall and proud on its own as one of the nicest we have seen of this date and mint. The striking is excellent on both sides, the lustre is satiny and rich, and the toning is nice enough to write home about—delicate splashes of gold and magenta at the centers with hints of electric blue at the borders, so-called "album toning." If you are endeavoring to assemble one of the finest collections of Barber half dollars ever put together, in our view this will nicely serve to define the 1894-O.

PCGS Population: 7; 5 finer (MS-68 finest).

Stunning 1895-S Half Dollar
Superb Gem
Condition Census



(2x photo)

617 **1895-S MS-66 (NGC).** A stunning 1895-S half dollar, to view this invites a double take. This specimen is a brilliant as the moment it left the dies, is richly lustrous, and has superb eye appeal. Add to that the elite MS-66 grade, just four at this level and one higher, and the present piece adds up to "must buy!"

NGC Census: 4; 1 finer (MS-67).

Gem 1895-S Half Dollar



(2x photo)

618 **1895-S MS-65 (NGC).** Not only is this a gem, it is a *nice* one as well. Fully brilliant and sharply struck, this piece is about as nice as the day it was made. The striking, both obverse and reverse, is from a very early state of the dies, perhaps just put in the press, as parallel die striae or finish lines are prominent on both obverse and reverse. Later, such finish lines tended to wear away, eventually being visible only near the dentils and other raised areas, then disappearing completely. Barber half dollars beckon as a very interesting collecting possibility, and the listing in the present catalogue offers many exceptional coins.

NGC Census: 5; 3 finer (MS-67 finest).

Gem Proof 1898 Half Dollar



619 **1898 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** A super gem coin, gorgeous, with silver and gold centers changing to splashes of iridescence. As pretty as a picture—certainly worthy of placing on loan at the newly reopened Museum of Modern Art, New York City. Needless to say, this coin has few peers

Incredible Proof 1905 Half Dollar

Superb Gem



(2x photo)

620 **1905 Proof-67 (PCGS).** Another incredible Barber half dollar, this is a superb gem Proof with absolutely stunning light iridescent toning, nicely blended. If a finer 1905 Proof half dollar exists anywhere in the wide world of numismatics we have not seen it!

PCGS Population: 10; 1 finer (Proof-68 finest).

Superb Gem Proof 1906 Half Dollar



(2x photo)

621 **1906 Proof-67 (NGC).** Brilliant and beautiful, no doubt just as it appeared on the day it was struck. Although 675 Proof half dollars were made in this year, fewer than 5% can match the quality of this coin today. An important acquisition possibility for the type set collector as well as the Barber half dollar specialist.

Gem Proof 1906 Half Dollar

Superbly Beautiful



622 **1906 Proof-66 (NGC).** Here is another world class coin, with light iridescent toning of breathtaking quality, superb and exciting. Very few coins have this combination of high grading number plus the ever important *quality and beauty.*

Choice 1906-D Half Dollar



623 **1906-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous surfaces with medium gray toning accented with mottled gold and blue. First year of issue at the newly opened Denver Mint.



624 **1906-S MS-63 (NGC).** A lustrous and lovely specimen. Well struck on both sides, the present piece has rich silvery lustre with nuances of gold. On the reverse, planchet striae from the die preparation process indicate that this is an early strike. What a lovely 1906-S half dollar this is!

Collecting Barber Half Dollars

The panorama of Barber half dollars from 1892 through 1915 offers an interesting opportunity for collecting. Among the three Barber denominations, the dime, quarter, and half dollar, the 50-cent pieces are the most difficult to obtain with a combination of high grade and aesthetic appeal. Many are rubbed, nicked, or have other problems, including some of those assigned fairly high grades.

There are no "impossible" rarities in the half dollar series, no equivalent of the 1894-S dime or, for that matter, the hard to find 1896-S, 1901-S, and 1913-S quarters. Instead, all issues, while some are rare, tend to be more or less moderately priced. The true availability of *high quality* half dollars is not generally known. Although certification numbers are useful, quality is often another aspect entirely.

If this series intrigues you, review listings in the *Guide Book, Coin Values,* or the *Coin Market,* gain an overall feeling for the cost, and then embark slowly and carefully, by selecting coins already graded MS-64 and upward, choosing them one by one. Expect to take *several years* to complete the task. When you are finished, consign your collection to American Numismatic Rarities and we will pull out all stops to showcase it to its deserved advantage!

Superb 1907-D Half Dollar

The Pittman Coin
High NGC Grade



(2x photo)

625 **1907-D MS-68 (NGC).** A superb specimen, Mint State, with rich lustre on both sides. Light golden and magenta toning is the rule, changing to blue and gunmetal-gray at the borders. The striking is very good.

This piece traces its pedigree to the marvelous collection formed by the late John Jay Pittman, well catalogued by David W. Akers, and presented at auction in 1998—one of the most notable sales of our time. Pittman, an employee of Eastman Kodak, was not at all a wealthy person. However, he had an eye for quality, being one of relatively few buyers who emphasized eye appeal, exceptional surface characteristics, and the like, joined by Emery May Holden Norweb, Louis E. Eliasberg Sr., and a few others. When his collection was sold, it brought a fortune—connoisseurship rewarded in a most dramatic way!

NGC Census: 2; none finer.

From David Akers Numismatics' sale of the John Jay Pittman Collection, May 1998, Lot 1614.

"As Struck" Proof 1909 Half Dollar



(2x photo)

626 **1909 Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS).** As struck, *or almost,* as it does have a tiny hint of golden toning. Brilliant, sharply detailed, and in all other ways quite choice, to which can be added the lure of being high in the PCGS roster.

PCGS Population: 7; 1 finer (Proof-68).

Gem 1911 Half Dollar



627 **1911 MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant, sharply struck, and lustrous. A hint of golden toning. If we were collecting Barber half dollars this would be it.



628 **1912-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Well struck and brilliant, with satiny lustre, delicate golden toning overall, this piece bespeaks *quality.* While it is not graded MS-65 and therefore may not be of so-called "investment quality" (a rather fake term in our opinion), connoisseurs will appreciate this as a truly lovely piece—one well worth owning.



629 **1912-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant with light golden toning. Fairly well struck overall, but with some trivial lightness at the eagle's wings near where they join the shield, not that anyone notices. A pleasing example overall, quite acceptable at the MS-63 level and, in fact, among the nicest we have seen so graded.

Gem 1915-D Half Dollar



630 **1915-D MS-65 (NGC).** Satiny lustre with lightly mottled golden and brown toning define this gem 1915-S. There is some lightness of striking near the reverse center, scarcely worthy of mention, but we do so anyway. A lovely coin, this piece is one of the nicest we have seen in recent times.

Liberty Walking Set

1916-1947-D

631 **Collection of Liberty Walking half dollars, complete from 1916 through 1947-D** and housed in two Library of Coins albums. Album one includes dates from 1916-1937, and most of these pieces are average circulated condition, though there are a few standouts such as: ☆ 1916 AU-55 ☆ 1918-D AU-58 ☆ 1920 AU-50 ☆ 1921 Good-6 ☆ 1921-D Good-4 ☆ 1921-S Good-6 ☆ 1929-S AU-55. Beginning in 1934 Mint State examples begin to appear and from this point on, about half are Choice Mint State, or better while the 1939 is Proof-58. A useful beginner set with many nice pieces and room for additions! In-person inspection is recommended. (Total: 65 pieces) 9500

Special 1916-S Half Dollar

Sharply Struck Mint State



632 **1916-S MS-65 (NGC).** A very special specimen of 1916-S, the present piece exhibits excellent striking details, not needle sharp in all areas (none are), but better than typically seen. Both obverse and reverse have satiny lustre, delicately toned gray and blue with some gold. The rims are quite wide on this and all other 1916 coins of the type, plus some of 1917, a distinctive characteristic. If you are an advanced specialist and are seeking a particularly nice example of the rarest of the three varieties of this year, your search ends here.



633 **1916-S MS-63 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen, with lustre in the form of a matte-like or satiny surfaces, characteristic of nearly all issues of 1916 (from the three different mints) and many of the early strikes of 1917 as well. Quite sharply struck, the present piece offers full delineation of just about every detail except at the centers, and in this regard is above average. A coin with a great deal of eye appeal and one that should draw enthusiastic bidding.



634 **1916-S MS-62 (PCGS).** A lustrous specimen with vivid mint "flash," a coin which is certainly MS-62, more likely MS-63. There is some lightness of strike at the center, but this is not wear, it simply goes with the territory for this design. Silver surfaces with some splashes of gray. A piece that offers a lot of value if purchased at an MS-62 price.

Lustrous 1918-S Half Dollar



635 **1918-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant with light golden toning. *Quite well struck,* not needle sharp, but far finer than usually seen. The lustre is of exceptional quality somewhat like a Matte Proof. All told this is an especially desirable example of a 1918-S, one of the finest we have ever seen at the MS-63 level and, for that matter, eclipsing some we have seen graded higher. Stop, look, bid!

Lustrous 1919-D Half Dollar



636 **1919-D AU-55 (PCGS).** Brilliant with most original mint lustre still present, particularly in the fields. A nice example at the AU level of one of the key issues of the era.

Choice 1920-S Half Dollar



637 **1920-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous and attractive with light golden toning. Somewhat typical strike at the centers, which goes with the territory and is never noted on holders, etc. Within the context of 1920-S half dollars this piece is particularly appealing and a strong bid is indicated.

Choice Mint State 1928-S Half Dollar



638 **1928-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous with delicate golden toning over both surfaces. San Francisco stood alone this year where half dollar production was concerned.

Another Mint State 1928-S Half Dollar



639 **1928-S MS-64 (NGC).** Attractively mottled toning presenting shades of rich gold, pale green, rose and blue over lustrous silver surfaces.

Gem 1938-D Half Dollar
Low Mintage



640 **1938-D MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous. Light golden toning over rich surfaces. Superb detail, remarkably so, among the finest seen. Worthy of a "stretch" bid to take it home.



641 **1938-D MS-65.** Brilliant and lustrous silver surfaces. A nice gem example of one of the later key dates in the series.

642 **1939 MS-67 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. Far above average strike. The last sentence is important to connoisseurs among our bidders.

643 **Group of Mint State Liberty Walking half dollars:** ☆ 1939-D MS-63 ☆ 1944-D MS-64 ☆ 1944-S MS-64 ☆ 1945 (2). MS-65; MS-64 ☆ 1945-D MS-65 ☆ 1945-S (2). MS-65, MS-64 ☆ 1946-S MS-64 (2) ☆ 1947-D MS-64. All are lustrous and toned various shades of iridescence from lovely rose to mottled olive gray. (Total: 11 pieces)

644 1940 Proof-64. A lovely specimen with light gray and gold toning.



645 **1941 Proof-67 (PCGS).** Sharply struck, brilliant, and very attractive. Just a whisper of toning. The usually seen variety without the AW monogram of the engraver, the only year without this feature. Some enthusiastic Mint employee polished the die too intensely, removing the monogram of the engraver.

646 **1941 Proof-65 (NGC).** Lightly cloudy and somewhat golden toning over deep mirrored surfaces, a *pristine* example that has never been dipped to brighten it. Variety without AW on the reverse.



647 **1942 Proof-67 (PCGS).** Delicate iridescent toning over deep mirror surfaces. Although this is not a rare Proof date, toning such as this without accompanying cloudiness, is not often encountered.



648 **1942 Proof-67 (PCGS).** Brilliant with light toning. Beautiful.



649 **1942 Proof-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant with a hint of iridescent toning. As lovely as can be.

650 **1946 MS-66 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous with light golden and brown toning around the borders. Exceptionally well struck for a 1946, and in our view worth a significant premium accordingly.

651 Trio of PCGS-certified half dollars ☆ 1942 MS-66. Lustrous with rich mottled gray at the peripheries ☆ 1943 MS-65 (2). Both with brilliant satiny lustre. (Total: 2 pieces)

652 **1946-S MS-66 (PCGS).** Mottled light golden brown toning over deeply rich lustrous surfaces, with some splashes of inky blue at the borders. Exquisite strike. A marvelous coin that probably will leave standard prices in the dust.

653 **Pair of Liberty Walking half dollars grading MS-66:** ☆ 1946-S (PCGS). Mottled rose-gray and blue-green toning over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1947 (NGC). Lustrous golden rose surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)



654 **1949-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS).** A lustrous specimen with delicately mottled brown and gold toning, with some splashes of red and green, a fully *original* example from a toning aspect.



655 **1960-D MS-65 FBL (PCGS).** Lustrous and mostly brilliant silver surfaces with traces of delicate golden toning noted on the obverse. Sharply struck and attractive.

SILVER DOLLARS

Several different 1795 dollars start the present offering, among them Mint State examples of *both* Draped Bust varieties for the date. Other Draped Bust dollars provide a great selection for beginners as well as advanced early dollar specialists. A stunning Proof-66 1839 Gobrecht dollar is offered, as well as Proofs of 1844, 1849, 1850, 1861, and others too numerous to mention. One of the most important rarities in U.S. numismatics, the only one of two 1866 No Motto Liberty Seated dollars available to collectors—the other specimen, the famous DuPont coin, was taken in 1967 in an armed robbery and returned to the family in 2003 through the efforts of our ownJohnKraljevich—will enter the auction aren, and will prove to be one of the highlights of this or any other year for that matter! Another remarkable highlight is the choice MS-63 1872-CC, a "wish list" coin if ever there was one!

As usual our offering of Morgan dollars is broad and all-encompassing, with virtually every date represented at least once. Highlights—and we limit ourselves to just a few here—include a choice MS-64 1893-S and an off-center 1899-O. Trade dollars are found in choice and gem Mint State and Proof, which is good news for those who are just beginning to realize what great coins (and *opportunities*) there are within the trade dollar series.

Memorable 1795 BB-20 Silver Dollar

Iridescent AU





(2x photo)

656 1795 BB-20, B-2. Rarity-3. Flowing Hair. Two Leaves. AU-55 (NGC). A splendid specimen of this variety, combining an obverse that displays excellent hair detail (not always the case with this type). On the present coin all aspects of the obverse are significantly finer than average. Light golden brown toning with some gunmetal-blue over richly lustrous surfaces.

On the reverse the striking is also quite good, with excellent detail except for the highest parts of the eagle, but far finer than usually seen. The leaves are excellent, the dentils are bold, and the overall appearance is enhanced by delicate gold toning with splashes of blue. Here, indeed, is a 1795 dollar as pretty as a picture, one that stands head and shoulders above the *quality* usually seen for examples designated at this level. As such, it is truly a find for the type set collector as well as the variety specialist.

1795 Flowing Hair Dollar





657 1795 BB-25, B-6. Rarity-3. Three Leaves. VF-20. Light gray toning with some hints of gold. Problem free surfaces. A very nice example at this grade level.

Mint State 1795 Silver Dollar
BB-51, Draped Bust



(2x photo)

658 **1795 BB-51, B-14. Rarity-2. MS-63 (PCGS).** A lovely example of what is believed to be the very first die in any American denomination to display Gilbert Stuart's Draped Bust motif. On this obverse die, one of two made in 1795, the head of Miss Liberty is placed slightly too far to the left. On the next die, BB-52, the situation was corrected by repositioning her slightly to the right. The present piece is very well struck on both sides, showing nearly all details, save for a few areas of trivial lightness, mostly on the eagle. Some adjustment marks are seen at the center and are mostly hidden by toning. Satiny lustre is on both sides, overlaid with gold, blue, and iridescent toning. This variety is seldom seen in Mint State. How marvelous this opportunity is.

1795 BB-51 Silver Dollar
First Draped Bust Issue



659 **1795 BB-51, B-14. Rarity-2. AU-50 (PCI).** Medium gray toning. Lightly worn surfaces on obverse and reverse. A few scattered marks are seen, most notably one above the space between the third and fourth date digits.

Splendid 1795 BB-52 Silver $1

Second Draped Bust Die of the Year

Marvelous Mint State



(2x photo)

660 **1795 BB-52, B-15. Rarity-2. MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant and deeply lustrous, quite well struck save for some details on the eagle, and very "nice" overall. A gorgeous piece that will be of great interest to the die variety specialist as well as the type set collector. Few equals exist anywhere.

On the reverse several cracks and die characteristics are especially noted, including a crack from the left border above D (UNITED) touching the lower left serif of the first S (STATES), continuing into the leaves. At the right near the border, past F (OF) are some raised islands. A crack is seen above R, continuing through the tops of ICA, then disappearing, then reappearing below the ribbon knot to the border.

Pleasing 1796 BB-61 Dollar

Small Date, Large Letters



661 **1796 BB-61, B-4. Rarity-3 Small Date, Large Letters. EF-45 (NGC).** A pleasing example with light gray toning accented with some splashes of gold on the obverse, more gold on the reverse. Some lustre can be seen in the protected areas. A great treat to the eye, a piece that will satisfy the variety collector as well as anyone seeking this die combination.

Scarce 1798 BB-94 Dollar



662 **1798 BB-94, B-3. Rarity-5. Heraldic Eagle. VF-20, sharpness of VF-30.** To examine this coin in person is to understand, and we recommend such. There is a planchet flaw at the right obverse border past the bust of Miss Liberty, the financial implications of which should be assessed during the viewing process. Overall the coin is finely granular or porous, another aspect that invites inspection. The toning is light yellow gold with some splashes of iridescence. The BB-94, B-3 die variety is fairly scarce among dollars of this date, adding an element of desirability for specialists.



663 **1798 BB-94, B-3. Rarity-5. Heraldic Eagle. F-12 (NGC).** Light gray and heather toning over well-worn surfaces. A coin that did its duty in circulation, but somehow escaped significant damage, acquiring simple wear. The striking is about typical for the variety, somewhat light at the centers.

Scarce 1798 BB-120 Dollar



664 **1798 BB-120, B-12. Rarity-4. Heraldic Eagle. EF-40 (PCGS).** Medium to deep gray toning with some aspects of lilac; the obverse is quite well struck on all areas, the stars especially. Some relapping has given the stars a "spidery" appearance, quite distinctive. The reverse is lightly struck above the eagle's head to the right. The dentils are especially prominent, and ample traces of mint lustre can be seen in protected areas. The BB-120 variety is elusive in any grade.

Lustrous 1798 BB-123 Dollar



665 **1798 BB-123, B-25. Rarity-4. Heraldic Eagle. AU-50.** A lovely specimen, high grade, retaining much of its original lustre in protected spaces. An inspection of the coin will show mint frost among the stars, letters of LIBERTY and, on the reverse, the lettering around the border. The striking is quite good on the obverse and reverse, as illustrated by the plate. Overall the surfaces are bright silver, with splashes of brown and gold here and there, particularly around the borders. A very lovely specimen of this variety.



666 **1799/8 BB-142, B-1. Rarity-4. VG-8 (NGC).** Well worn, but attractive within the grade designation. Certainly this will be a nice opportunity for the budget minded numismatist. The overdate feature, easily visible to the unaided eye, adds desirability.

Pleasing 1799 Dollar

13 Star Reverse



667 **1799 BB-152, B-15. Rarity-3. VF-35.** Attractive and uniform medium gray surfaces with delicate rose overtones. Original in appearance and quite choice for the grade, though an old scratch is noted in the obverse field left of star 12, and is taken into consideration. A very pleasing early dollar and likely to generate a premium bid regardless of the minor flaw.

Lovely 1799 BB-154 Dollar



668 **1799 BB-154, B-18. Rarity-5. EF-40 (NGC).** Light gray toning over evenly worn surfaces. Problem free.

The reverse is from a late state of the die and shows multiple cracks, most prominently at the left from the center of the coin, touching the base of E (UNITED), to the border.

Lustrous 1799 BB-158 Dollar



669 **1799 BB-158, B-16. Rarity-2. AU-58 (NGC).** Brilliant on the obverse and reverse. Fairly well struck, with some lightness at the center, but with exceptional star and letter detail. A pleasing example of this early issue.

Obverse with slight clash mark in the field below Miss Liberty's neck.

High-Grade 1799 BB-160 Dollar

Attractive AU-55



670 **1799 BB-160, B-12. Rarity-3. AU-55 (PCGS).** Medium gray and lilac toning with much lustre visible. A very attractive example of this popular die variety, a coin with enough eye appeal for at least two piece.

The obverse die is a late state, shattered, with many interesting breaks or cracks.

Lustrous 1799 BB-166 Dollar



671 **1799 BB-166, B-9. Rarity-1. VF-35 (PCGS).** Not often is a coin graded VF-35 described as being *lustrous*, but, indeed, that is the fact here. Between the stars, hidden among the interstices of the letters, and elsewhere, is a generous amount of original mint frost—perhaps 10% of the original (we haven't measured and wouldn't know how to). Light gray toned surfaces. Not a rare variety, but one that is quite pleasing to the eye.

On the obverse there is a clash mark extending from the chin of Miss Liberty to star 10, so that it is a *spiked chin* dollar, to borrow the nickname from the half cent series! The reverse shows subtle clash marks here and there, and delicate die cracks through much of the lettering to the right side of the coin.

Rare 1799 BB-168 Dollar



672 **1799 BB-168, B-22. Rarity-5. EF-40 (PCGS).** Light gray surfaces. Well struck at the borders, somewhat light at the centers. A dramatic bisecting die crack across the reverse is stunning in its aspect and serves to instantly identify it. It is a wonder that this and related coins could be struck.

Here is a very pleasing example of the rare B-22 variety, a find for the specialist.

1800 BB-184 Dollar

Bolender Plate Coin



673 **1800 BB-184, B-12. Rarity-3. Net EF-40, sharpness of AU-53.** A lovely specimen, attractive and retaining much original mint lustre. Scratches crisscross the center of the reverse, giving this coin a curious aspect from the standpoint of value. Examine it, then compute your bid. The striking is fine and viewed from the obverse only the piece is exceptional. Perhaps it should be kept only face up!

Bolender Plate. From Superior's sale of February 1999, Lot 1186.

Attractive 1800 BB-187 Dollar



674 **1800 BB-187, B-16. Rarity-2. EF-45 (PCGS).** Gray toning, lighter on the higher areas. Fairly well struck for a dollar of this type, but with some lightness at the upper right clouds on the reverse and at the reverse center. A thoroughly worthwhile example of this type, date, and die combination.

Lightly Toned 1800 BB-195 $1



675 **1800 BB-195, B-15. Rarity-4. VF-35 (PCGS).** Light to medium gray toning over smooth surfaces. Exceptionally bold dentils frame the obverse and reverse designs. A handsome example of this popular and somewhat scarce die combination.

1801 BB-211 Dollar

Mint Lustre Remaining



676 **1801 BB-211, B-1. Rarity-3. AU-50 (PCGS).** Brilliant silver surfaces with some mint lustre remaining in protected areas. Quite well struck. A handsome example of this variety, head and shoulders finer than that typically seen.

Lustrous 1802 BB-241 Dollar



677 **1802 BB-241, B-6. Rarity-1. AU-50 (NGC).** Certified as AU, this piece retains much original mint lustre, particularly among the stars on the obverse and, more extensively, the letters and designs of the reverse. Attractive in appearance. A nice example that will fill the bill for the early dollar enthusiast.

Superb 1839 Gobrecht Dollar

An American Classic





150K





678 **1839 Gobrecht. Judd-104, Pollock-116. Rarity-3. Proof-66 (NGC).** A superb specimen of one of the most desired American coins, the restrike counterpart of an issue made for circulation, and thus collectible as a *type*. Mint records indicate that 300 specimens were produced in 1839, nearly all of which were released into circulation. Today, original Proofs are so rare as to be virtually impossible to find. The gap is filled by restrikes from the same obverse and reverse design, probably made at the Mint circa spring 1859 or later, for distribution to the numismatic trade.

Although perhaps a couple hundred or so 1839 Gobrecht dollars exist today, the present piece stands head and shoulders above the others, at the top of the NGC certification pyramid, the one and only at the Proof-66 level. Moreover, and in our view equally if not more important, the present piece is absolutely gorgeous to behold, with light magenta toning at the centers changing to electric blue at the borders, all over deep mirror fields.

The present piece has multiple appeals—for the advanced collector assembling a type set, for the silver dollar specialist, and, although it is not a pattern, possibly for the pattern enthusiast as well as it is listed as Judd-104.

Die alignment IV.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

Marvelous Proof 1844 Dollar

Unique Die Characteristics

From the Share Collection



(2x photo)

679 **1844 Proof-64 Cameo (NGC).** A truly marvelous specimen, deep mirror surfaces overlaid with light golden toning. Sharply struck in all areas. *Unique die* among 1844 dollars, as the shield has the normal triads of vertical stripes, seen only on Proofs of this year, (but on Proofs and regular issues of all the other years). 1844 circulation strikes are from a different die and because of doubling during the die making process have *four* elements to each vertical stripe.

Proof Liberty Seated silver dollars form an interesting specialty in themselves. In the early years examples were made in Proof format of each year from 1840 through 1850, skipping 1851, then 1852, skipping 1853, then 1854 onward. Later as numismatic demand arose, Proof restrikes (with centered date, at least a couple of which were struck using existing Liberty Seated dollars as planchets) were made to order, a small number of Proof 1853 dollars were also created, either from an 1853 obverse not regularly used in that year, or from a newly made 1853 die.

Dozens of the Proof 1851 restrikes were made and, it is said, just 12 of the 1853s.

Today assembling a full run of Proofs from 1840 through 1873 can be done, but the procedure takes a long time, with the truly difficult pieces being those from 1840 through 1850, plus 1853. The presently offered 1844, also well known as a rare date, will be appreciated by anyone embarking on such an endeavor.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

From the Share Collection

Incredible Proof 1849 Dollar

Proof-65 (NGC) and (PCGS)

The Floyd Starr Specimen



680 **1849 Proof-65 (NGC).** Among early Proofs, Liberty Seated dollars are the *crème de la crème* of the silver issues, the only series that can be collected in date sequence (with the help of restrikes of 1851 and 1853 as noted elsewhere in our catalogue. Among such dollars the 1849 is one of the rarest. It is with great pleasure that we present for your bidding consideration a specimen that was earlier in the Share Collection, and before that in the Starr Collection, a nice pedigree combination. This piece is currently certified as Proof-65 by NGC, as a former owner (Share) had NGC place all of his coins in their holders to insure uniformity. Before that it was certified Proof-65 by PCGS, as shown by the original PCGS ticket which accompanies this lot (#6990.65/4120550).

Both obverse and reverse are beautifully toned rich lavender, heather, and gold, with intermittent areas of bright silver. The striking is excellent on both sides, with full details of the stars, Miss Liberty's head, the dentils, and other areas. On the obverse the four-digit date logotype is high and close to the date. The reverse die is that seen on other dollars of this era and is described in detail in the 1993 text by Bowers, *Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*. The most notable features are two tiny projections at the right side of the final A (AMERICA). Rather than make a new Proof die each year, the Medal Department simply kept this die on hand and used it in sequence.

For the Liberty Seated dollar specialist, the Kennywood Collection catalogue contains several simply breathtaking, simply incredible opportunities, of which this is one. We recommend that connoisseurs take careful note.

NGC Census: 5; 1 finer (Proof-67).

PCGS Insert Proof-65.

Over a long period of time we have offered all of the Proof dollars of the 1840s and 1850s. Within the decade under consideration it has been our experience that the 1849 is one of the most elusive. Apparently just a few silver sets were produced. Production was erratic, with more sets seemingly produced in such years as 1844 and, particularly, 1846, although the absolute numbers were not large. No records survive and we can only conjecture. In addition to pieces struck as part of sets made available to collectors and also on occasion for presentation, it is likely that interested numismatists could obtain single pieces. This seems to have been done mostly with the copper series, notably the half cents. Breen listed seven specimens of this issue, including this piece as number one on his list.

Commentary made by David Akers in his description of the Randall-Garrett-Pittman specimen of this notable rarity seems appropriate to quote here, as Pittman chased this exact coin in the 1947 Geiss sale and ended up waiting 30 years to find another high quality specimen!

"JJP [Pittman] himself always considered the 1849 to be the rarest Proof dollar of the decade and he once told me that this specimen [i.e. the Garrett coin] was one of only two really attractive examples of the quality that he preferred that he had ever seen available to him in his long collecting career. (The other was the Frederic Geiss coin [i.e. the present offering], purchased by Floyd T. Starr in competition with JJP, after JJP had purchased Geiss' 1847 and 1848 Proof dollars.) Apparently that is why he was willing to spend more money on this coin than he did for any other coins that will appear in the John Jay Pittman Collection sales."

The moral of the story is: miss this coin and wait until 2034 for another chance!

From the Share Collection. Earlier, from B. Max Mehl's sale of the Frederic W. Geiss Collection, February 1947, Lot 344; Stack's sale of the Floyd T. Starr Collection, October 1992, Lot 592.

Incredible Proof 1850 Dollar



(2x photo)

681 **1850 Proof-66 (NGC).** The finest of the fine, the rarest of the rare—say whatever you wish, but here indeed is a classic among Liberty Seated dollars. A gorgeous Proof, the present coin displays light golden toning with splashes of blue and other iridescence, well struck, and of gorgeous appearance. Moreover, as a date the 1850 is very rare. Walter Breen knew of only seven Proof specimens of the date, and he admitted that "the last three may represent two or three of those earlier mentioned."

If you are appropriately financed, the present sale would seem to be a great place to start a collection of *early Proof* Liberty Seated dollars—a marvelous opportunity.

NGC Census: 2; none finer.

30K book

Scarce 1850 Liberty Seated $1



682 **1850 AU-58 (NGC).** A lovely specimen with much mint lustre remaining. Light silver with hints of golden toning. A high-grade circulated example of this key issue. Only 7,500 were minted for circulation, one of the lowest figures in the series.

Remarkable 1857 Dollar



683 **1857 MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. A remarkable quality example the likes of which are rarely seen. Coins of this year were made primarily for export to China, at which destination they were transshipped to India and there melted. The present piece shows good detail at the centers, with the usual lightness on certain of the stars, and with the large date somewhat lightly impressed in the die as always. Some vertical die striae are seen, as are some horizontal lines (particularly through the date), indicating this was an early impression from the obverse die. Striae are similarly seen on the reverse. The Mint did not take the time to finish the dies completely.



684 **1860-O MS-60 (PCGS).** Light to medium gray toning over lustrous and somewhat prooflike surfaces. One of just two New Orleans varieties that can be readily collected in Mint State, the other, the 1846-O, being for all practical purposes unobtainable.

1000

Gem Proof 1861 Dollar

The Eliasberg Coin
Finest Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

685 **1861 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** Graded Proof-65 Cameo by PCGS, with no peers and none finer, this coin already has enough going for it that the offering is exciting. However, beyond that it has the finest pedigree imaginable, from the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, the part of the collection that crossed the auction block in 1997. Both obverse and reverse are deep mirror Proof, with delicate golden toning, quality personified. In addition, the 1861 dollar is rare in circulated grades, what with a worn AU-50 piece listing for $2,000 in the *Guide Book*. Such pieces have a great *foundational value*, in our opinion—being a key date across the board, plus the aspect of gem Proof quality.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer within the designation.

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection, April 1997, Lot 2232.

Choice Proof 1861 Dollar



686 **1861 Proof-64 (PCGS).** Mottled medium gold with some hints of blue, over sharply struck details and mirror surfaces. This Proof 1861 is doubly desirable, first as a lovely Proof and second as a specimen of a date that is rare in any and all circulated grades (placing extra market pressure on the few available Proofs). As if this were not enough, the Proof mintage is quite low, just 550 coins.

Gorgeous 1861 Proof Dollar



687 **1861 Proof-64 (NGC).** A splendid specimen, one of the nicest seen. Although graded Proof-64, the eye appeal is stunning, creating a piece which has relatively few equals. Both obverse and reverse are bright silver with tinges of magenta and gold at the borders. The striking is superb. A piece with tremendous eye appeal.

Rare 1863 Dollar



688 **1863 AU-58 (PCGS).** A very rare *circulation strike* of the 1863 dollar, seldom seen, with far fewer market appearances than for *Proof* pieces. The obverse and reverse are toned medium heather and gray. On the reverse in particular are some contact marks above the eagle, not unusual for this circulated grade. The striking is superb.

Only 27,200 1863 Liberty Seated dollars were made. These did not circulate in the East or Midwest as all silver was hoarded, and it cost more than $1 per coin to make silver dollars. Accordingly, these were only struck to the order of bullion depositors who paid more than face value to have them created, with the intent of shipping them to distant ports. At their destinations they were valued by silver metal, not by the face value imprinted on them, and served in effect as *trade dollars*. Today, high-grade circulation strikes of the 1863 silver dollar are exceedingly rare

The 1866 No Motto Silver Dollar



Obverse of Lot 689

The 1866 No Motto Silver Dollar

Only Collectible Specimen of Two Known

A Classic American Rarity



(2x photo)

689 **1866 No Motto. J-540, P-605. Rarity-8. Proof-63 (NGC).** Silver. Reeded edge. When this piece was last offered by our team, included in the September 2003 ANR sale as Lot 130, it failed to meet its consignor's reserve bid. Its appearance in our sale was still an historic moment for numismatics, as it was that auction offering that led to the events that were capped by the successful recovery of the stolen duPont specimen of the 1866 No Motto dollar. We at American Numismatic Rarities were proud to assist with the recovery effort, a rediscovery that made news on four continents and made this dollar coin one of the most famous American coins in existence. The duPont specimen, after its viewing by thousands of collectors and non-collectors alike at conventions and in newspapers around the globe, now resides safely and probably permanently at the ANA Museum in Colorado Springs. The fame attracted by that coin, and its impounding in one of America's great institutional collections, makes this piece – and this offering – all the more important. Long held by a Texas gentleman, the only 1866 No Motto dollar available to private collectors is now consigned by that gentleman's estate. As it passes into the possession of another proud collector, we are pleased to present (with some amending) the catalogue description prepared for our September 2003 sale catalogue:

Brilliant silver gray with delicate mottled cabinet toning dominated by pale golden tones with intricate highlights of bright blue and deep violet; the reverse shows pewter gray toning with subtle gold and violet tones. The devices are satiny, the fields reflective but not deeply mirrored, the obverse showing greater reflectivity than the reverse. Apparently struck only once, nicely detailed with a nearly full strike, the most minor flatness on Liberty's knuckles and hair curls. Light hairlines on both sides, tiny spot inside of stars 1 and 2, dark toning below D and L of DOL, spot apparently removed at lowest arrowhead and noted for identification of this specimen. An eye-appealing, glittering, beautiful Proof dollar. However, it is not the quality of the coin that is the key point; the fame rests upon its rarity. The silver dollar series is laden with rarities - but none compare with the 1866 No Motto dollar.

The 1794 silver dollar, the desirable first year of issue, is a great rarity—perhaps as many as 150 may survive but the number is likely less. The most famous silver dollar is undoubtedly that dated 1804. Divided into three categories, a total of 15 exist: eight called Class I (struck in the 1830s), a single plain edge overstruck Class II in the Smithsonian Institution, and six called Class III (restrikes struck as late as the 1870s). Although the 1804 dollar is an incredible rarity, there have been over a dozen different auction opportunities to buy one in recent years, the most memorable being the $4.1 million gem Proof Childs Collection coin, the finest known specimen and an especially desirable Class I. The 1870-S dollar is also a classic rarity, with perhaps nine specimens known, with the most recently offered example selling in excess of $1 million. Its original mintage is unknown.

For many years, the 1866 No Motto dollar has been recognized as the key to the silver dollar series. In 1949, the piece was misunderstood, and the *Guide Book of United States Coins* (3rd edition) mistakenly listed it with a common date price. The next year, catching the error, there was no listing of the coin at all—that line entry had simply been effaced from the text. In the 1951 5th edition, the entry "1866 No Motto Reverse" returned with but a single word of explanation—"unique." At the time, the present piece was lost in the Brand estate and was unknown. Today, in 2004, it is the only silver dollar listed in the *Guide Book of United States Coins* without an estimated price or price history, however, the listing remains erroneous in that it reports the mintage as (725), parentheses indicating Proof

mintage. While this figure may include the two known No Motto pieces, it more accurately reflects the Proof mintage of the With Motto type. A generation of collectors has come and gone without the opportunity to buy an example of this coin for any price, for none of the "name" collections sold in our time has included a specimen. This is truly a remarkable statement, considering the great preponderance of rarities (including the 1933 double eagle) that the strong market for rare coins has brought into the spotlight in the last several decades.

Like other famous rarities, the famous 1913 Liberty Head nickel being the prime example, the exact circumstances of striking the 1866 No Motto dollar are not known today. It has long been presumed that only two pieces were struck to create numismatic rarities, probably in the 1860s or early 1870s. The practice of creating rarities for a ready numismatic marketplace created nearly all of the classic rarities placed in the modern pantheon of United States coins: the aforementioned 1913 Liberty Head nickel, the 1804 Class II and Class III silver dollars, the 1884 and 1885 trade dollars, and other famous but "second-tier" rarities such as the 1868 copper large cent, the 1879 Coiled Hair Stella, and 1880 Coiled and Flowing Hair $4 gold Stellas. However, since we have had the unique opportunity to closely study both known No Motto dollars in the last year, we have compared their die characteristics, and compared them to other Proof Liberty Seated dollars of the era. Based on these studies, we offer here a few observations.

Both No Motto Liberty Seated dollars were struck from the same die pair, in similar die states. Additionally, the obverse die was used to strike a large percentage of the 1866 With Motto Proofs that we been able to study, also in a similar die state, suggesting that the No Motto pieces were produced contemporaneously to the regular-issue Proofs of the year. To date, the reverse die used to strike the 1866 No Motto pieces has not been matched to any other Proof No Motto coins studied, including coins dated from the 1840s to 1865, and as we mentioned in our September 2003 description, it does not match the 1851-1853 restrikes, the 1871 Indian Princess pattern dollar, nor the Liberty by the Seashore pattern of 1876. If in fact the 1866 No Motto coins were rarities created later as numismatic delicacies per past suggestions, it seems likely that they would share a reverse die use with other pieces made during the same later period such as the pattern issues noted above. It is also likely that the obverse die would have seen some refurbishment to prepare it for restrike use, making it noticeably different from the die state that struck the regular With Motto Proofs of 1866, however this is not the case. Certainly, much more extensive study is in order, and we plan to continue our study of all No Motto Proof reverses that we are able to examine. However, based on our findings to date, it seems less likely than once thought that the 1866 No Motto dollars were struck as later fantasies.

The 1866 No Motto dollar was apparently once part of a set of three pieces, all dated 1866 with the obsolete No Motto reverse: a quarter, half dollar, and dollar. The set—lacking the dollar—entered the historical record and the numismatic spotlight in 1890 at the Robert Coulton Davis sale. The R.C. Davis collection was consigned intact to the partnership of H.P. Smith and David Proskey, doing business as New York Coin and Stamp Company, then a brand new firm. The two known dollars both somehow ended up in the hands of Stephen K. Nagy, the Philadelphia dealer, soon thereafter. One specimen was sold to Virgil Brand by the Chapman Brothers, Henry and Samuel Hudson, on April 2, 1899—coincidentally the 107th anniversary of the signing of the Mint Act. The Brand coin, long assumed to be the present specimen, is thought to have remained in the massive Brand estate until 1960, when the presently offered coin appeared after decades of hiding in the Fairbanks Collection sale, held by Stack's in December 1960. This example was sold twice more in the 1960s, in the Samuel Wolfson sale (1962) and Charles Jay sale (1967), and then sold for the last time at auction in Stack's 1972 sale of the Winner Delp Collection. After transfer through two dealer intermediaries, this coin ended up in a private Texas collection in the late 1970s. It was exhibited with great acclaim at the 1979 ANA Convention and at the Money Museum of the National Bank of Detroit in the same year. It most recently appeared in our September 2003 sale.

The other 1866 No Motto dollar, after leaving Nagy's hands, enjoyed a place in several important collections before meeting an apparently tragic end. H.O. Granberg, William Woodin, Waldo Newcomer, and Wayte Raymond all owned it—it became the plate coin for the Adams-Woodin book (and later for all editions of the Judd book) while in Woodin's possession. Colonel E.H.R. Green, with his nearly endless resources, reassembled the No Motto set of quarter, half, and dollar, and the set traded to F.C.C. Boyd, Abe Kosoff, and eventually to King Farouk of Egypt. Purchased in the 1954 Farouk sale by Kosoff and Sol Kaplan, where the dollar was in one lot and the quarter and half dollar were in the next lot, the set was broken up and the dollar was sold to Lammot duPont. The coin was stolen at gunpoint from Willis duPont and family in 1967 in south Florida along with other famous rarities, including the unique plain edge 1849 Cincinnati Mining and Trading Company $10. That coin has never been recovered; it is assumed lost. (Events that transpired since the original writing of this description have altered this assumption!)

The tragic disappearance of the only other known specimen has left this example, for all intents and purposes, unique. (More recent events, namely the placement of the duPont specimen in the ANA Museum, still leave this as the only collectible specimen.) It is the rarest coin listed among federal issues in the *Guide Book of United States Coins*. It is the only certified specimen, (though the duPont piece was certified by NGC, it has since been removed from its holder) and the only one offered at auction since the King Farouk sale. Without risk of hyperbole, this is among the most important and desirable United States coins in existence.

Considering the pride we feel after handling both specimens of the 1866 No Motto dollar and watching them pass from our hands, we can only imagine the pride of ownership that the next owner of this piece will experience, knowing that he or she is the caretaker of the only specimen that coin collectors can ever hope to own in the future. This renowned rarity, the subject of coverage on CNN, BBC, and newspapers around the world, may be counted among the pantheon of the most famous rare coins from the United States Mint. Once this opportunity passes by, we do not imagine that deep pockets or endless patience would provide another chance to own this very important coin.

From Stephen K. Nagy to the Chapman Brothers to the collection of Virgil Brand on April 2, 1899; Brand estate; Stack's sale of the Fairbanks Collection, December 1960, Lot 611; Stack's sale of the Samuel Wolfson Collection, October 1962, Lot 1425; Stack's sale of the Charles Jay Collection, October 1967, Lot 182; Stack's sale of the Winner F. Delp Collection, November 1972, Lot 91; dealer intermediaries; a Texas gentleman, our sale of September 2003, Lot 130; a Texas gentleman's estate.

The 1866 No Motto Silver Dollar



Reverse of Lot 689

Proof 1866 Liberty Seated $1

First Year with Motto



690 **1866 Motto. Proof-62 Cameo (NGC).** A lovely Proof , with frosty surfaces, deep mirror fields, and many other attributes. Very conservatively graded at MS-62, in our opinion. There are hairlines, to be sure, but they are mostly masked by the toning. The fields are deep and mirrorlike, not at all cloudy. Interestingly, the obverse die is identical to that used to coin the famous 1866 *No Motto* Liberty Seated dollar, of which just two are known. Present readers will no doubt recall all of the excitement last year when the long-lost duPont specimen was found and identified by our staff, and widely shown and publicized afterwards. Today it is an honored exhibit at the American Numismatic Association Museum in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The presently offered coin, with motto IN GOD WE TRUST on the reverse, offers a lot of value at the Proof-62 grade. This piece is worthy of careful study and consideration.



691 **1870-CC EF-40 (PCGS).** Light silver surfaces with hints of gray toning. The first Carson City dollar, and just about the only Liberty Seated variety that comes on the market with some frequency. Everlastingly popular.

Golden Toned Mint State 1871 Dollar



692 **1871 MS-62 (PCGS).** Medium golden toning over silver surfaces.

Memorable 1872-CC Liberty Seated Dollar

Prooflike Mint State

Condition Census Quality



(2x photo)

693 **1872-CC MS-63 (PCGS).** A memorable specimen of one of the great rarities in the Liberty Seated dollar series, the present piece combines high grade, sharp strike, and rarity—an ideal blending. Both obverse and reverse have light gold toning over essentially silver surfaces. The entire aspect is very pleasing to the eye.

Among Liberty Seated dollars the Carson City Mint struck issues from 1870 through 1873. All are scarce today, this being particularly true of the 1871-CC, 1872-CC, and 1873-CC. When seen the typical issue is apt to be in circulated grade, not often with good eye appeal. The present piece is exceptional and will be a feather in the cap of the advanced specialist in coins of this design.

PCGS Population: 3; 1 finer (MS-65).

694 **Octette of Morgan dollars grading MS-63:** ☆ 1878 8 Tailfeathers. Lustrous with golden and gray toning at the peripheries ☆ 1879-O. Lustrous with golden and blue iridescence at the peripheries ☆ 1882-CC. Satiny lustre with mottled sunset gold and blue at the reverse periphery ☆ 1883-CC (2). One is satiny with just a touch of golden toning; one with mottled brownish gray and steel blue on the obverse and splashes of mottled silver gray, sea green, and lilac on the reverse ☆ 1887-O. Lustrous with splashes of pale golden brown at the obverse periphery and brownish gray at the reverse periphery ☆ 1891. Satiny with pale gold, magenta, and blue at the obverse periphery, the reverse with pale golden toning at the periphery ☆ 1899. Satiny lustre with splashes of pale golden orange. (Total: 8 pieces)

If you do not yet have a copy of Dave Bowers' best selling Whitman publication, *The Official Red Book of Morgan Dollars,* by all means you might want to add one to your library. The volume is packed with information from beginning to end, just about all you ever wanted to know about Morgan dollars—how they were made, distributed, hoards and treasures, market values in different grades, and just about anything else. Each date and mint is described in detail. Copies are available from your local coin dealer or by mail from us for $16.95 plus $5 postage and handling. If requested, Dave Bowers would be delighted to personally autograph one for you.

Remarkable Prooflike 1878 Dollar

Doubled Tailfeathers



(2x photo)

695 **1878 7/8 Tailfeathers. MS-66 DPL (NGC).** Traditionally called 7/8 Tailfeathers, and so identified on the holder, now more widely known as "Doubled Tailfeathers." The present piece is deeply prooflike on the obverse and reverse, and stands as the finest certified by NGC with this particular DPL designation. The details are superb, and the earlier tailfeathers (numbering four in total), peeking out from below the final seven, can be seen.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the designation.



696 **1878 7/8 Tailfeathers, Weak. MS-65.** Brilliant and satiny lustre with lovely golden toning highlighting the rims. The variety with weaker tailfeathers, but not so weak as to require imagination! Traces of 4 partial feathers are visible beneath the ends of the final seven tailfeathers.

697 **Quintette of Morgan dollars grading MS-63:** ☆ 1878 7/8 Tailfeathers. Frosty lustre with golden toning at the rims ☆ 1878-CC. Pale mottled lavender-gray with splashes of steel blue over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1888-S. Lustrous with faint whispers of gold and gray on the obverse the reverse with golden and blue green over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1892. Satiny with a whisper of pale magenta ☆ 1902-S. Lustrous with bright rich golden toning at the peripheries. (Total: 5 pieces)



698 **1878 7 Tailfeathers, 2nd Reverse. MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant silver lustre with bold cartwheels on both sides. Housed in a first generation PCGS holder. A lovely Gem.

699 **Selection of Morgan dollars grading MS-64:** ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers, 2nd Reverse. The obverse with frosty sunset gold center with lilac and gunmetal-blue at the periphery, the reverse is lustrous with gold, magenta, and steel blue at the periphery ☆ 1880. Lustrous with gold, rose, and sea green at the obverse periphery, the reverse with golden toning at the periphery ☆ 1881. Satiny lustre with golden toning at the rims ☆ 1882-S PL. Reflective surfaces with just hint of silver gray on the obverse, the reverse with mottled bluish gray and rose-gray over reflective surfaces ☆ 1889-S. Satiny with golden and blue toning at the peripheries ☆ 1890-S. Lustrous with faint speckled gray on the obverse and rose on the reverse ☆ 1897-S. Lustrous with just a whisper of lavender-gray and rose toning over both surfaces. (Total: 7 pieces)

700 **Selection of Morgan dollars grading MS-62:** ☆ 1878 7 Tailfeathers, 3rd Reverse. Lustrous with golden toning at the obverse periphery, the reverse with iridescent magenta, blue, and sunset orange ☆ 1878-CC. Lustrous with a splash of gold and blue at the reverse rim ☆ 1882-CC. Lustrous lavender-gray with hints of rose ☆ 1884-CC. Mottled lilac-gray over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1885-S. Satiny lustre ☆ 1887-S. Lustrous ☆ 1891-S. Rose-gray surfaces. (Total: 7 pieces)

Deeply Lustrous 1878-CC $1



701 **1878-CC MS-65 (PCGS).** Lustrous and attractive, well struck, and with mottled lilac and gray toning, not to overlook some splashes of blue; this is truly a dandy 1878-CC dollar. First year of the Morgan dollar series and, of course, first Carson City year as well.

702 **Quintette of Morgan dollars grading MS-64:** ☆ 1878-CC. Pale golden orange with steel blue at the obverse periphery, the reverse with golden toning at the periphery ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. Mixture of olive-gray, blue-green, orange, and rose on both the obverse and reverse ☆ 1897-S (2). One is lustrous with splashes of golden orange on the obverse and gold, orange, blue, and rose on the reverse; one with rich blue green, magenta rose, olive, and orange on the obverse, the reverse with splashes of lavender, rose, olive green, and blue green ☆ 1903-O. Mottled golden orange, magenta, and blue green on the obverse, the reverse is mottled iridescent blue green with splashes of magenta and gold. (Total: 5 pieces)

703 **Selection of Morgan dollars grade averaging MS-60 to MS-63:** ☆ 1878-S (2) 1879 ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse (2) ☆ 1880 ☆ 1880-S (2) ☆ 1881 ☆ 1881-O ☆ 1881-S (2) ☆ 1882 ☆ 1882-O ☆ 1882-S ☆ 1883 (2) ☆ 1883-O (2) ☆ 1884 (2) ☆ 1884-O (2) ☆ 1885 (2) ☆ 1885-O (2) ☆ 1886 (2) ☆ 1887 (2) ☆ 1888 ☆ 1888-O (2) ☆ 1889 (2) ☆ 1890 (2) ☆ 1890-O ☆ 1891 ☆ 1896 (2) ☆ 1897 (2) ☆ 1898 (2) ☆ 1898-O (2) ☆ 1899-O (2) ☆ 1900 ☆ 1900-O (2) ☆ 1901-O ☆ 1902 ☆ 1902-O (2) ☆ 1904-O ☆ 1921-S (2). All are lustrous with most toned in various shades and degrees. A very attractive grouping. (Total: 60 pieces)



704 **1879 MS-65 (PCGS).** Mottled gray, magenta, blue, and iridescent toning over deeply lustrous surfaces. An ideal coin for the buyer who enjoys vivid patination.

Ever-Popular 1879-CC $1 Rarity



705 **1879-CC Normal Mintmark. MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, nicely struck, and ever so popular! Offered is a dandy specimen at the MS-63 level, a piece that has a great deal of eye appeal and will serve to have you cross this rarity from your want list. Among Carson City dollars, this is third in rarity, on the tail of 1889-CC and 1893-CC.

706 **Octette of Morgan dollars** ☆ 1879-O MS-61 ☆ 1880-O MS-60 ☆ 1886-O AU-58 ☆ 1891-O MS-61 ☆ 1897-O AU-58 (2) ☆ 1899-S MS-60 ☆ 1903-O MS-61. An attractive group. A few with traces of toning mostly at the periphery and nearly all with reverse peripheral toning. (Total: 8 pieces)



707 **1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-67 (PCGS).** Brilliant with satiny surfaces. Well struck. Light golden toning around the surfaces. A truly marvelous coin, not rare in lower grades, but exceptional in this combination of numerical assignment plus eye appeal.



708 **1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-67 (NGC).** 3rd Reverse, with slanted arrow feather. A highly prooflike coin, certainly *DPL*, but not designated as such. Frosty surfaces. A very pleasing example of this popular variety.



709 **1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-67 (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous, and very attractive. The frost is a delicate satiny matte finish, very pleasing to behold. It is truly marvelous how the lustre can vary so much among silver dollars in the Morgan series.

710 **Trio of 1879-S 3rd Reverse Morgan dollars:** ☆ MS-66 PL (PCGS). Reflective surfaces with faint speckled toning ☆ MS-66 PL (NGC). Reflective with good frost on the devices ☆ MS-66 (NGC). The obverse is somewhat reflective with deeply frosted portrait, the reverse is lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

711 **1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Brilliant with prooflike surfaces. Nicely struck. A pleasing example.

712 **1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Brilliant and prooflike, the obverse being a deeper prooflike surface than the reverse. A few scattered marks are seen here and there, normal for the assigned grade.

713 1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-65 (NGC). The obverse is a veritable palette of rainbow colors—prismatic with just about every hue of the spectrum visible. No doubt within the cloth bag in which this was stored, the face of the piece was in contact with canvas for many years. In contrast, the reverse is brilliant and lustrous and must have been an "inside" coin. The piece is well struck (as are most of this variety).

714 Trio of toned silver dollars: ☆ 1879-S 3rd Reverse. MS-64 (NGC). Deep iridescent rose, gold, blue-green, and gray over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1883-O MS-64 (NGC). Lustrous with vivid golden toning on the obverse, the reverse with a splash of rainbow toning at the rim ☆ 1885-O MS-65 ☆ (NGC). Iridescent olive green, blue, and rose on the obverse, while the reverse is mostly brilliant with golden toning at the rim. (Total: 3 pieces)

Superb Gem 1880-CC Dollar
8 Over High 7



715 **1880-CC 8 Over High 7. MS-66 (PCGS).** A superb specimen of this variety, simply labeled as 1880-CC on the holder. Rich satiny lustre, full brilliance, and a great deal of eye appeal combine to make this a very special piece.

Another Superb 1880-CC Dollar
8 Over High 7



716 **1880-CC 8 Over High 7. MS-66 (PCGS).** Another specimen, deeply and richly lustrous and attractive. On this piece the 8 over high 7 is mentioned on the holder.

717 **Group of Morgan dollars housed in GSA holders:** ☆ 1880-CC 8 over high 7. MS-63. Lustrous with lightly frosted devices ☆ 1881-CC MS-63. Satiny lustre with a splash of golden toning at the reverse rim ☆ 1882-CC MS-63. Satin lustre with golden rose at the rims ☆ 1883-CC MS-64. Lustrous with hints of faint rose highlights ☆ 1884-CC (2) MS-64; one MS-62. Both are lustrous with hints of pale golden toning ☆ 1885-CC MS-63. Lustrous. (Total: 7 pieces)



718 **1880/79-CC 2nd Reverse. MS-62 (NGC).** A lovely rainbow of pastels drape half of the obverse, while the remaining surfaces are brilliant. Bagmarks as seen on many GSA dollars account for the grade. Housed in a GSA holder and certified by NGC.

719 **Quartette of Morgan dollars grading MS-62:** ☆ 1880-CC. Mottled gray over lustrous surfaces on the obverse, the reverse with mottled gray, rose, and blue-green at the periphery ☆ 1881-CC. Splashes of mottled rose and bluish gray on the obverse, the reverse with splashes of faint rose ☆ 1890-CC. Lustrous with golden orange, magenta, and blue on the reverse ☆ 1891-CC. Satiny champagne rose with splashes golden toning at the peripheries. (Total: 4 pieces)

720 **Quartette of Morgan dollars grading MS-63:** ☆ 1881-CC. Satiny with pale golden gray on the obverse and a splash of pale gold and sea green on the reverse ☆ 1883-S. Lustrous with delicate silver gray surfaces and hints of gold at the peripheries ☆ 1885-CC. Splashes of pale rose-gray on the obverse, the reverse with rose toning ☆ 1901-S. Lustrous. (Total: 4 pieces)

721 **Quartette of silver dollars:** ☆ 1881-S MS-65 PL (PCGS). Reflective with whispers of delicate toning ☆ 1883-O MS-65 PL (PCGS). Reflective with lightly frosted devices ☆ 1896 MS-65 PL (PCGS). Frosty lilac-gray over reflective surfaces on the obverse, the reverse is predominately brilliant ☆ 1899-O MS-66 (PCGS). Satiny with delicate golden toning. (Total: 4 pieces)



722 **1882-O MS-65 (NGC).** Rich golden iridescence with bold highlights of blue-green at the peripheries.

Rainbow Toned 1883-CC $1 Gem

Finest NGC Grade, No Others



723 **1883-CC MS-67 ★ (NGC).** A splendid piece. Among those being assigned a ★ for quality, this piece is highest on the NGC roster and the only one at this level. Both obverse and reverse are well struck with excellent detail. The obverse has a mottled palette exhibiting gold, magenta, green, blue, and heather, over satiny lustrous surfaces. The reverse is mostly brilliant with just a whisper of gold toning around the borders. This 1883-CC is certainly one of the most beautiful that could exist either in reality or in theory!

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the ☆ designation.

Prooflike Gem 1883-CC Dollar



724 **1883-CC MS-66 DMPL (PCGS).** Not only prooflike but *deep mirror prooflike*, or DMPL, with cameo designs and letters in contrast. A lovely example.



725 **1883-CC MS-65 (NGC).** A deeply toned gem from the GSA hoard, still in its original government holder and certified by NGC. Deep rainbow toning covering the obverse, while the reverse is mostly brilliant save for an arc of soft gold and lilac around the bottom rim.

Highly Important 1883-S Dollar

Lustrous Gem





(2x photo)

726 **1883-S MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant with satiny surfaces. Quite well struck. A highly important example of this key issue, not often seen in MS-65 grade and, when it is, not usually with such eye appeal. This coin *has everything!*

Gorgeous Proof 1884 Dollar
Vivid Iridescent Toning
Old-Time Quality



727 **1884 Proof-64 (PCGS).** One picture is worth a thousand words and once glance at this coin during lot viewing would probably supercede a thousand words of text, the coin in a single word is *gorgeous*. The obverse and reverse have rich light golden toning at the centers, changing to electric blue at the borders, all over deep mirror fields and frosted surfaces. We think so highly of this coin to venture to suggest that if you are seeking a Proof-65 or 66, check this one out and we imagine it will do just fine! It certainly is one of the most beautiful Proof Morgan dollars we have ever beheld.

728 **1884-O MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Brilliant and highly prooflike. Light toning.

Toned 1884-S $1



729 **1884-S AU-58 (NGC).** Soft lilac and rose over the obverse surface, while the reverse is predominately brilliant. Good lustre and a respectable example of the grade.

Lustrous 1884-S Dollar



730 **1884-S AU-58 (NGC).** Brilliant, well struck, and with nearly full original lustre. About as close as a coin can be to Mint State without actually crossing the line (stay tuned—grade interpretations do change, and perhaps this will evolve into Mint State). In any event, it certainly is an attractive piece, a "high end" AU-58 and well worth owning.

731 **Quartette of Morgan dollars grading AU-58:** ☆ 1884-S ☆ 1894-O ☆ 1896-O ☆ 1901. Each is attractive with shades of golden toning at the reverse peripheries. A couple with gold at the obverse rims. (Total: 4 pieces)

Choice 1886-O Morgan Dollar



732 **1886-O MS-63 (NGC).** Brilliant with satiny lustre. Fairly well struck for 1886-O. A particularly choice piece which lives up to the designated grade. As such, this key date and mint will receive much attention.

733 **1886-O MS-61 (NGC).** Brilliant and somewhat prooflike. Scattered marks here and there define the grade. No doubt if the piece were *not* prooflike, the contact marks would be hidden in the lustre, and it would qualify for a grade or two higher.

The 1886-O is a truly marvelous coin in numismatic annals, a great "believe it or not" situation. In the grade of VF-20 it catalogues $17 in the current *Guide Book of United States Coins,* while at MS-65 it is $200,000, or over 1,000 times more!



734 **1886-S MS-64.** Brilliant and lustrous. Light golden and iridescent toning around the borders on both sides. Far above average strike. An ideal representative of this popular date, conservatively graded (opinion) at the level stated here.

735 **Pair of Mint State Morgan dollars:** ☆ 1888 MS-66 (NGC). Lovely satiny lustre ☆ 1890-O MS-64 (NGC). Satiny champagne with gold and sea green at the obverse periphery, the reverse with yellow and deep rich golden brown. (Total: 2 pieces)

Prooflike 1889-CC $1 Rarity
Among the Finest



(2x photo)

736 **1889-CC MS-63 PL (PCGS).** A wonderful coin, prooflike, and among the finest graded by PCGS in this combination of surface and grade level. The strike is quite good, the brilliance is all there, and only the contact marks serve to designate this as MS-63. Most of those are on the obverse, and the reverse, if graded separately, is clearly a 64 if not a 65.

Among all Morgan dollars from the Carson City Mint, the 1889-CC takes the laurels in terms of rarity in Mint State. In relation to the demand for them, they are not often found in dealers' stocks, simply because they come and go so quickly!

Circulated 1889-CC Dollar



737 **1889-CC VF-25 (PCGS).** Medium gray toning over well-worn surfaces, an 1889-CC dollar that must have taken part in many poker games in the West. Today, the 1889-CC is elusive in all grades, but most are in one degree or another of *Mint State*. Accordingly, perhaps we could call this a *reverse* condition rarity! There is no doubt it will be just right for someone seeking an example of this key issue who does not want to pay a Mint State price.

Popular 1890-CC Dollar



738 **1890-CC MS-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, and well struck. Essentially silver at the centers with some iridescence around the border. Scattered contact marks are visible, particularly on the obverse, and were factored in by PCGS when assigning the grade.

Another Mint State 1890-CC $1



739 **1890-CC MS-63.** Satiny silver surfaces with nice lustre on both sides. Brilliant with some bagmarks, but none too serious. Housed in a GSA holder.



740 **1890-S MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant, well struck, and deeply lustrous. A dandy example of this popular San Francisco issue. Coins like this make collecting Morgan dollars a very popular specialty.

Gem 1891 Morgan Dollar



741 **1891 MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant at the centers with light golden brown at the borders. Fairly well struck. Some scattered surface marks as might be expected. Elusive in certified grades of MS-65 or higher, in comparison to the population at lower levels.

Lovely Proof 1892 Morgan Dollar



742 **1892 Proof-62 (PCGS).** A lovely Proof example with somewhat muted gray-gold toning over mirrored surfaces. Some light striking above Miss Liberty's ear, typical for the date. Although 1,245 Proofs were made this year, a record high figure for the era, it is likely that most were spent. The occasion for the exceptional production, which extended to the other silver denominations, was probably interest anticipated from the World's Columbian Exposition publicity. We can envision the scenario in which the Barber dime, quarter, and half dollar were kept by collectors, representing the first year of that design, while dollars were spent, as relatively few specialized in coins of this high denomination.

743 **1892 MS-64.** Brilliant with attractive and vivid gold and magenta toning around parts of the borders. Well struck and deeply lustrous. A very appealing example of the 1892 Philadelphia Mint issue.

Appealing 1892-CC Dollar



744 **1892-CC MS-64.** Brilliant with satiny lustre. Light lavender toning. Very well struck. An especially appealing example that certainly could challenge a number of MS-65 coins in a combination of technical grade, plus eye appeal, plus overall desirability. Check this one out and bid accordingly!



745 **1892-CC MS-62.** Prooflike fields with light frosted devices. Brilliant and appealing.

Key 1892-S Dollar

Lustrous Mint State



(2x photo)

746 **1892-S MS-61 (NGC).** Brilliant, above average in strike, and with attractive lustre, this is a very satisfying 1892-S Morgan dollar. Indeed, we believe it is conservatively graded, perhaps undergraded by a number or two. Examine it carefully and, if you agree, bid a "stretch" price, more than an ordinary MS-61 might sell for.

Lustrous 1892-S Dollar



747 **1892-S AU-55 (PCGS).** Brilliant with just a hint of golden toning. Most lustre still remains. Fairly well struck. A nice example, short of Mint State and thus highly affordable, of one of the keys in the Morgan dollars series.



748 **1893 MS-63.** Gray and blue toning, probably artificial, over lustrous surfaces. Popular Philadelphia Mint issue. As opinions may vary, check this one out before bidding.

749 **1893 MS-62.** Lustrous with splendid light magenta, gold, and electric blue on the obverse, combined with a mixture of blue, magenta, and gray on the reverse. Ideal for the buyer who appreciates colorful patination.

750 **1893 MS-62.** Brilliant and lustrous with wisps of gold around the borders. Nicely struck. A very appealing example at this grade.

751 **Quartette of Morgan dollars grading MS-62:** ☆ 1893. Pale lavender, blue green, gold, and rose on the obverse, the reverse with bright rose center changing to magenta then to iridescent blue at the rims ☆ 1898-S. Lustrous with hints of gold ☆ 1900-S. Lustrous with golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1903-O. Lustrous with just a whisper of rose. (Total: 4 pieces)

752 1893 MS-61 (NGC). Brilliant, lustrous, and attractive. A very "high end" MS-61 coin.

753 1893 MS-61 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous. With quite a few more contact marks than the preceding, which goes to show how subjective grading can be. Desirable as a scarce Philadelphia date.

Important 1893-CC Dollar



754 **1893-CC MS-61 (NGC).** Sharply struck with satiny lustre, brilliant with a few iridescent toning areas at the rim—this about sums up the present coin. Among Carson City dollars the 1893-CC is second only to the 1889-CC. By far the majority of 1893-CC dollars are very "baggy," the present piece being a remarkable exception. Although it is graded MS-61, we venture to suggest that in terms of *market value* it stands nicely with pieces graded a number or two higher. Inspect it in person and we believe you will agree.



755 **1893-CC EF-45.** Light silver surfaces. Obverse lightly cleaned at one time. Reverse with lilac toning. Date and mintmark sharp. Always in demand.

Elusive 1893-O Morgan Dollar



756 **1893-O MS-62 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. Somewhat lightly struck at the centers (not that this is mentioned much), this being typical. A lustrous example of a New Orleans variety that becomes quite elusive in Mint State, in comparison to the demand for it.

Elusive 1893-O Morgan Dollar



757 **1893-O MS-62.** Brilliant with satiny lustre. About typical strike for the date and mint, and thus possibly not needing comment (but we give it anyway). A very appealing example with a great deal of "life" to it. Scattered surface marks are seen, particularly on the obverse, as usual for the grade. This piece is worth a special look.

Landmark 1893-S Dollar

Gorgeous Mint State

Sharply Struck, Super Eye Appeal

Key to the Series



758 **1893-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Every once in awhile in examining and cataloguing Morgan dollars, one of our favorite series, we come across a piece that is truly *special,* world class, that will be forever remembered. Such an occasion is now, with the piece offered here. The 1893-S dollar is the be-all and end-all among Morgan issues. How many exist that compare to this piece we have no way of knowing, for if there was ever a meal ticket for a grading service, the 1893-S dollar is it—a lot of pieces have been submitted, resubmitted, then re-resubmitted, until making an evaluation from certification reports is meaningless. Accordingly, we expand on our own experience, which may be more relevant. Over a period of decades, the number of equal or finer pieces that have passed through our portals can be counted on the fingers of one hand. A significant remark, we believe.

The obverse die is somewhat prooflike, the result of it being given a light polish, the striae of which can be seen under high magnification. The striking is quite good, none finer ever seen. On the reverse the details are all present, the eagle's feathers, the ribs in the laurel leaves, you name it. The coin is prooflike on this side as well. Going beyond certification numbers and entering the aspect of *eye appeal,* we would be very surprised if *any* MS-64 silver dollar in the wide world of numismatics has nicer eye appeal than this.

If you have been a Morgan dollar specialist for a long time and lack this pivotal piece to crown your achievement, consider the present piece very carefully. It is a coin that will give a lifetime of pleasure.

PCGS Population: 4; 7 finer (MS-67 finest).

Another 1893-S $1



759 **1893-S VG-8,** but with old scratches evident on the reverse. Medium gray surfaces and pleasing other than the noted defects. Always a popular date, being one of the toughest in the series, and as such an example in any grade is likely to be very desirable to a large number of collectors. The present example is far from the lofty grade of the piece offered above, but it is far more typical for the issue.

Lustrous 1894 Dollar



760 **1894 MS-60.** A lustrous example with full mint frost on obverse and reverse. On the cheek there are some horizontal slide marks (too bad they are not somewhere else). Overall the quality is higher than normally seen for a coin of this grade designation.

Near Mint State 1894 $1



761 **1894 AU-58.** Brilliant and highly lustrous, about as close to Mint State as can be, without actually being there—or perhaps it is—opinions vary. We like to be conservative. Nicely struck with rich lustre combined with delicate toning around the borders. A dandy example.

Choice 1894-S Dollar



762 **1894-S MS-64 (PCGS).** Brilliant, deeply lustrous, and quite well struck, the present piece is a paradigm of the MS-64 grade—all the connoisseur would hope for. The surfaces are richly frosty, with a lot of "life," accented by lightly mottled delicate toning. If we were collecting Morgan dollars at the MS-64 level, we would latch on to this piece quickly!



763 **1894-S MS-63 (NGC).** Sharply struck, brilliant, and lustrous, a dandy 1894-S at the MS-63 level. To our eyes this is a piece well worth owning.

764 **1894-S MS-63.** Brilliant and lustrous. Light toning around the borders. Another splendid Morgan dollar.

Scarce 1895-O Morgan Dollar



765 **1895-O AU-58 (NGC).** Lustrous surfaces with a few faint hairlines and signs of mild friction on the highest points that account for the grade. A branch mint rarity in AU or finer, whose price soars once the Mint State mark is crossed making a nice AU example particularly desirable. One of just 450,000 pieces minted.

Rare 1895-O Dollar



766 **1895-O AU-55 (PCGS).** Brilliant with most of the original lustre still remaining. Light evidence of circulation, but quite attractive overall, an ideal example at the AU-55 level.

Another 1895-O Morgan $1



767 **1895-O AU-53 (NGC).** Lustrous and brilliant with soft friction on the high points and fields that account for the grade.



768 **1895-O Net AU-50, sharpness of AU-58.** Surface marks here and there, including some on the face of Miss Liberty, inviting in-person inspection to determine their financial impact. Typical strike for 1895-O, with some lightness at the centers. One of the key issues among New Orleans dollars, significantly rarer than most others.

Worthwhile 1895-S Dollar



769 **1895-S MS-61 (NGC).** Sharply struck and fully lustrous. A worthwhile example of this scarce issue. Brilliant with just a whisper of golden toning. Marks here and there, as expected for the MS-61 grade, but still with a lot of old fashioned eye appeal. This is one of the nicest we have seen so designated.

Ultra-Grade 1896 Proof Dollar

Proof-69 Ultra Cameo



(2x photo)

770 **1896 Proof-69 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** One picture is worth a thousand words, and instead of defining *perfection* in a Morgan dollar, perhaps we could request that anyone interested view this coin. Indeed, it could not have been any different the day it was struck.

Of the 762 minted, few are so nice today. For the buyer on a quest for a "trophy" Proof Morgan dollar this may fill the bill.

NGC Census: 2; none finer within any designation.

Superb Gem Proof 1896 Dollar



(2x photo)

771 **1896 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant with frosty surfaces. A splendid coin appearing as it must have on the day it was struck and gently taken from the dies. Relatively few exist at this certified grade in combination with simply breathtaking eye appeal.

NGC Census: 8; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-69 Ultra Cameo finest).

Superb Gem Proof 1896 Dollar



(2x photo)

772 **1896 Proof-66 Deep Cameo (PCGS).** A beautiful specimen closely approaching perfection. Frosted surfaces, deep mirrored fields, and light champagne toning add to the overall beauty. Few existing pieces are this nice.

PCGS Population: 8; none finer within the designation.



773 **1896 MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Some hints of light gold are seen over essentially brilliant silver surfaces. Mirrorlike fields. A very highly prooflike circulation strike, per the certification.

Key 1896-O Morgan Dollar



774 **1896-O MS-62 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous with a hint of toning overall, and with an iridescent area at the rim below the date. Extremely well struck and with good frost and "life," a remarkable coin in this regard, as many dollars of 1896-O are dull and lifeless.

Among New Orleans Mint dollars this is one of the more elusive in higher grades. The situation is somewhat parallel to that of the 1886-O, inasmuch as in the present instance a VF-20 1896-O catalogues for $18 in the *Guide Book,* but it takes $150,000 to land an MS-65. While we would like nothing better than to offer an MS-65, and certainly it would play to an enthusiastic gallery of bidders, we cannot help but think that the present coin, lustrous and very attractive, offers a great value for the money, probably realizing just a few thousand dollars, its current market level.

Important 1896-O Dollar



775 **1896-O MS-61 (PCGS).** Brilliant with partially prooflike surface, nicely struck, and with good eye appeal. This piece will fill the proper niche in a collection at this level. Some contact marks are seen on the cheek and define the grade. Absent these, the coin would probably be called MS-62.

Important 1896-S Dollar



776 **1896-S MS-63 (NGC).** Sharply struck, brilliant, and lustrous. A truly excellent example of an 1896-S dollar—one of the key issues in the series. In our opinion, MS-63 represents an ideal compromise between high quality and low price. The problem is that MS-63 is simply a number, and in the marketplace the quality can vary widely. The present piece is one of the nicest we have ever seen at this level, and we highly recommend it for your consideration.

Elusive 1897-O Dollar



777 **1897-O MS-63 (NGC).** Satiny silver gray surfaces. Sharply struck with full hair details above Miss Liberty's ear and full definition of the eagle's breast feathers. An elusive date in higher Mint State grades despite the sizable mintage of slightly more than four million pieces. Of more than 2,700 pieces seen by NGC, only 30 grade finer than the presently offered example.

Exceptional Grade 1898-S Dollar



778 **1898-S MS-65 (NGC).** A splendid 1898-S dollar, this piece has mottled gray and iridescent toning on the obverse, probably from contact with a cloth bag. The reverse is brilliant and somewhat prooflike. Some marks are seen here and there, no doubt taken into consideration by NGC. While over 100 pieces have been catalogued at this grade or higher, the population is actually quite small in relation to the fantastic demand for Morgan silver dollars—far and away the most popular 19th-century series to collect.



779 **1899-O MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Brilliant and beautiful, very close in quality to a Philadelphia Mint Proof. A delight. Among DMPL coins there are some that are "nice," and others that are not, as connoisseurs and specialists know well. Often the deep mirror surface accents marks and abrasions. That said, the present piece, while it does have some contact marks, is one of the nicest we have ever seen. Moreover, the strike is exquisite, one of the sharpest and best defined imaginable. Although this coin is not expensive in terms of market value guides, the quality is all there and we would not be surprised if it brought a healthy premium over what might be normally expected.

Rare Off-Center 1899-O $1



780 **1899-O 5% off center. Net AU-58;** sharpness of MS-63, cleaned at one time. An important and dramatic silver dollar error. Off-center by 5% or so (a substantial margin for a silver dollar), to just left of the exact 12:00 position. The dentils are entirely off the planchet at the top of the obverse and hug the rim at the base of the reverse. The improper positioning of the planchet in the coining chamber did not let the collar naturally assume its intended position, but there is a short area of reeding above UNITED and MERICA adjacent to the reverse (which means that the obverse was in top position when struck). Lustrous silver gray with good eye appeal and cartwheel, but the area in front of the face and on Liberty's profile was lightly polished at one time, leaving some hairlines. The reverse appears untouched and of full MS-63 or better quality if judged alone. A very desirable New Orleans error.

781 1899-S MS-63 (NGC). Brilliant, lustrous, and somewhat prooflike. Some light toning at the rims. A splendid example of the date, mint, and assigned grade.

Ultra Cameo Proof 1900 $1





(2x photo)

782 **1900 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant, beautiful, and designated as "ultra" cameo (although, presumably, all Proof 1900 dollars are this way). However, the *grade* is certainly "ultra," as not many exist at this level or higher. Proof Morgan dollars of all dates suffered a fairly high attrition rate in terms of handling. It would be a challenge to put together a nice set in the Proof-64 or Proof-65 level if eye appeal is factored into the equation.

NGC Census: 2; 1 finer within the designation (Proof-68 Ultra Cameo).

783 **1900-S MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous, and beautiful. This piece is actually full MS-65 or even finer, in our opinion, but on the obverse are many parallel planchet striations caused by the draw bench at the end of the planchet strip preparation process. How nice it would be if instead of using a single number an expansive description could be given. In that instance, here is a trial offering: MS-66, very few contact marks. Full original brilliance with delicate toning. *However,* on the obverse there are many parallel planchet striations caused by the strip preparation process. Sometimes these are squeezed out or flattened during the pressure of striking, but in this instance they are visible, particularly under magnification.

784 **Pair of NGC-certified silver dollars:** ☆ 1900-S MS-64. Brilliant, lustrous and attractive ☆ 1928 MS-62. Rich golden gray over lustrous surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)



An interesting and probably rare view of fractional currency notes being printed at the Treasury Department circa 1863, before the Bureau of Engraving & Printing came into being. Sheets of fractional currency were printed by hand. The steel plate was inked with a roller (see center foreground), after which impressions were taken by pressure. The lady in the left foreground is probably counting or recording printed notes.

Choice 1901 Morgan Dollar

Lustrous Mint State



(2x photo)

785 **1901 MS-63 (NGC).** A lovely, lustrous, and thoroughly choice *Mint State* 1901 dollar, very rare in this format. Another significant opportunity from this part of the Kennywood Collection sale, the present piece will attract wide competition.

The circulation strike mintage of the 1901 was very extensive, amounting to 6,962,800 pieces, however it is likely that virtually all were put into circulation at or near the time of mintage, for today well worn pieces are exceedingly common. Mint State examples are not known to have been saved by even a single collector, as numismatists of the era simply bought Proofs. Accordingly, the survival of a coin such as this is a matter of very rare chance.

Mint State 1901 Morgan Dollar



786 **1901 MS-62 (PCGS).** Brilliant with satiny lustre. Light golden toning. A very nice example. The 1901 in MS-65 is valued at $150,000 in the *Guide Book*, with no assurance, of course, that a check for this amount would find one. The present coin is indeed Mint State-62, and has contact marks, but the price differential is so great that we cannot help but think that it offers a tremendous value for the price paid.

787 1902-S MS-63 (NGC). Brilliant with satiny lustre. A whisper of golden toning is on the reverse. A splendid coin to add to a collection being formed at the MS-63 level. We wouldn't mind owning it ourselves!

Essential 1903-S Morgan Dollar

Desirable MS-63



788 **1903-S MS-63 (NGC).** Sharply struck with satiny lustre, a "high end" example of the MS-63 grade, this piece may well prove to be a "must have" coin for adding to a set at the MS-63 designation. The present sale offers many such opportunities, a veritable playground for the MS-63 specialist (with enough higher and lower grade pieces to appeal as well). Obviously, the connoisseur selected this coin with great care. Among San Francisco dollars, this is one of the scarcer issues.

Gem 1904 Dollar



789 **1904 MS-65 (NGC).** Lustrous pale silver gray surfaces with faint gold toning at the rims. Though this issue is fairly available in Mint State, the number of pieces available at the gem level drops off considerably, in fact, NGC has graded just four specimens finer than the one presently offered. Slight strike softness is noted, mostly at the periphery and eagle's breast feathers as is typical.

790 **1904-O MS-65 DMPL (PCGS).** Brilliant and beautiful. Silver with delicate gold toning. Deep mirror surface save for a "halo" of frost around the portrait. DMPL dollars play to a special audience, and if these appeal to you, you may wish to bid liberally on this one.



791 **1904-S MS-62.** Brilliant with smooth, satiny lustre. Fairly well struck. Some hairlines are noted. A coin with a very attractive appearance.



792 **1921-S Morgan. MS-65 (PCGS).** Mottled gray and brown toning on the obverse, light gold on the reverse, over satiny lustrous surfaces. The 1921-S dollars (along with Philadelphia and Denver coins) are, of course, a study in themselves and cannot be compared with earlier dates. Among the three issues of this year, the 1921-S is most difficult to find.

Gem 1921 Peace Dollar

High Relief Issue



793 **1921 Peace. MS-65 ★ (NGC).** Brilliant, frosty, and very attractive, this certainly is one of the nicest 1921 Peace dollars you will ever see. There is some lightness of strike at the center, *as is standard for this issue,* but which is not reflected by the certification services or scarcely ever in print. The striking process could not bring up the full design details in the center, and it was for precisely this reason that the relief of the dies was made shallow for use in 1922 and later years.

Gem 1921 Peace Dollar

Above Average Strike



794 **1921 Peace, High Relief. MS-65 (PCGS).** A lustrous specimen with light golden toning. Areas of light striking at the center are normal, however, among 1921 Peace dollars the present coin is especially well defined, easily ranking it in the top 5% we have ever seen. Although all details are not present, most are. An exceptional coin worthy of an exceptional bid.

795 **1921 Peace. MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant and attractive. Some lightness at the center, but *significantly better than usually seen,* perhaps worth a premium as such. This coin could easily be graded MS-65 in our opinion. However, the obverse die was not completely finished, and it shows many *raised* preparation marks, which to the uninitiated might appear as hairlines. Actually, under magnification this piece is quite a study. If during the lot viewing process you have extra time, we suggest you examine it carefully. In contrast, the reverse die was completely finished and has no such preparation lines.

796 1923 MS-66 (PCGS). A brilliant gem Peace dollar, perfect to represent the type in a high end type set. Extraordinarily lustrous and boldly attractive.

797 Pair of Peace dollars grading MS-65 (PCGS): ☆ 1924. Silver gray surfaces ☆ 1925. Satiny lustre with a whisper of rose. (Total: 2 pieces)



798 **1926-D MS-66 (PCGS).** A boldly lustrous gem example with full mint brilliance and exceptional eye appeal, even at this high grade. Nicely struck and quite desirable, as branch Mint Peace dollars graded in excess of MS-65 are rather rare.

Superb Gem 1935-S Peace Dollar



799 **1935-S MS-66 (PCGS).** Bright satiny surfaces with silver Mint brilliance and just a trace of soft champagne toning accenting each side. The lustre is truly superb and the eye appeal is exceptional. Among the finest examples of the final branch mint issue of the design type, PCGS having seen only a single piece that they deemed worthy of a finer grade.

TRADE DOLLARS

Gem 1873-S Trade Dollar
Lustrous MS-65
Condition Census



(2x photo)

800 **1873-S MS-65 (NGC).** A brilliant, lustrous specimen of the first San Francisco trade dollar, this piece is one of the nicest we have seen. It is from an early mating of the dies, with parallel die striae or finish marks visible on both sides. On later strikings they wore away. There is lightness at the eagle's leg at the lower right, typical.

NGC Census: 3; 1 finer (MS-67).

Near the entryway of the American Numismatic Association Museum in Colorado Springs stands a large Morgan & Orr press shipped to San Francisco in 1873 and used specifically to coin trade dollars. The press has been restored and makes a great attraction.

Gem 1875-S Trade Dollar



801 **1875-S Type I/I. MS-65 (NGC).** Light heather, gray, and gold toning over lustrous surfaces. An exceptionally high-grade example of the 1875-S. Indeed, only four have been given a higher number by NGC, all MS-66.

While the 1875-CC is available easily enough in worn grades, at the gem level it is quite elusive, particularly in proportion to the demand for it.



802 **1875-S Type I/I. MS-63 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen with satiny "creamy" lustre, fairly good strike (except for the eagle's leg on the right of the reverse), and good eye appeal. Some scattered marks here and there are typical for the grade. Interestingly, the reverse is from a shattered die. This coin will serve well for the type or variety collector. The eye appeal is all there.



803 **1875-S Type I/I. MS-63 (PCGS).** A lustrous and attractive example, brilliant with delicate golden toning. Exceptionally well struck in all areas, including the eagle's leg on the right reverse (one of the places, together with the obverse stars, that can be weakly struck at times). Another excellent coin for the specialist or type collector.

Gem 1876 Trade Dollar

Iridescent MS-66



(2x photo)

804 **1876 Type I/I. MS-66 (NGC).** A gem specimen classified as MS-66 by NGC, high Condition Census (just one finer). This piece will suit the specialist and connoisseur. Both obverse and reverse are toned a rich light gray and magenta, nicely blended, over frosty surfaces. A notable opportunity.

NGC Census: 4; 1 finer (MS-67★)

Superb Gem 1876 Trade Dollar



805 **1876 Type I/II. MS-65 (PCGS).** A superb gem specimen, one of the finest graded by PCGS. Beyond that, the variety, obverse Type I and reverse Type II, is of interest to specialists. Connoisseurs, possibly including specialists as well, will appreciate the overall quality of this piece, very well struck on the obverse and reverse, including the eagle's leg on the reverse at lower right, the key point for weak striking when such occurs. The lustre is somewhat satiny. The toning overall is a mixture of gray and magenta, with certain features outlined by blue. Some contact marks are seen here and there, including near the date, but are masked by the attractive toning.

High-Grade 1876-S Trade Dollar



806 **1876-S Type I/I. MS-65 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen, fairly well struck, exhibiting lavender surfaces with splashes of iridescence. Eye appeal and high numerical grade come together in one of the nicest trade dollars that PCGS has examined in its grading laboratory.

PCGS Population: 8; 1 finer (MS-66).

Superb 1878 Proof Trade Dollar

Memorable Eye Appeal



807 **1878 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC).** If you have an 1878 Proof trade dollar on your want list, you can cross off the notation as soon as you buy this. Although it is graded Proof-65, it carries the day in terms of eye appeal, often a completely different situation from the grading number. This is truly one of the nicest we have ever seen.

Although 900 Proofs are said to have been struck of the 1878, it is likely that quite a few were melted or spent, for today this piece is far rarer, in proportion to the original mintages, than those of later dates. The present coin combines eye appeal and all other aspects of desirability at this grade level.

Choice Proof 1878 Trade Dollar



808 **1878 Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS).** Lovely silver and steel blue surfaces. Very well struck down to the tiniest detail, the lower part of the leg of the eagle at the right of the reverse typically being the defining point (if weak striking is present, it usually shows up here first).

PCGS Population: 8; 7 finer within the designation (Proof-67 Cameo finest).

Elusive Proof 1878 Trade Dollar

Iridescent Toning



809 **1878 Proof-64 (NGC).** A lovely specimen with electric blue toning, magenta, and gold—delightful. Certainly one of the finest we have ever seen at this grade level. Bid liberally and you may own it.

Remarkable 1878-CC Trade $1 Rarity

Key to the Series

From the Legend Collection









810 1878-CC MS-65 (PCGS). A remarkable specimen, the key to the regular trade dollar series, far and away the rarest of all the circulation strikes.

When this trade dollar crosses the block we expect a great deal of excitement. At this level, indeed at *any* level the 1878-CC is scarcely ever seen.

A lovely Mint State specimen, classified as a gem, of the rarest circulation strike issue in the trade dollar series. The surfaces have rich iridescent toning, lending further appeal to the coin.

We have noted many times that collecting a full set of circulation strike trade dollars is quite doable, this consisting of one of each issue from 1873 through 1878, struck for the China trade. The key item, although collectible, is the 1878-CC, a rarity in any and all grades. Very few are ever offered, and the total population is likely only in the hundreds. These are in grades from EF onward. We note with curiosity a listing of VG-8 in the *Guide Book*, but probably no such coin exists.

The story of the 1878-CC trade dollar is not known completely. The mintage was 97,000, of which 44,148 pieces, not identified to date, were melted on July 19, 1878, at Carson City. Likely these were of the variety offered here. As to whether the rest of the mintage ever went to China, this is unknown. Certainly a few did, but perhaps under 10,000.

A few years ago we had occasion to offer an 1878-CC trade dollar in MS-65. We looked high and low for some type of auction record or other indication, and finally found it listed for $150,000, in a price guide included in a popular numismatic publication. Seeking to learn the source we called the compiler, only to be told that he was not able to find any record either, and his number was simply a guess. It proved to be far on the high side, but did serve to illustrate the lack of offerings in the marketplace.

From the Legend Collection. Earlier, from RARCOA's session of Auction 90, August 1990, Lot 837.

Lustrous 1878-S Trade Dollar



811 **1878-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Medium gold toning with some hints of magenta, over satiny lustrous surfaces. Especially well struck, not reflected in the grading number but perhaps even more important than a high designation.

Marvelous Gem 1880 Trade Dollar
Proof-67 Cameo, None Finer Graded



(2x photo)

812 **1880 Proof-67 Cameo (PCGS).** Brilliant as the *month* it was made, the present coin is bright silver with just a whisper of champagne toning. Sharply struck on the obverse and reverse, and in an exceptionally high grade, this piece will satisfy the buyer who wants a truly special coin. Within the world of PCGS only five have been graded with the designation of either cameo or deep cameo, with none higher. By the way, these designations, of relatively modern origin, were not used on earlier certified coins. They are perhaps redundant, as *all* Proof 1880 trade dollars have frosty features against deep mirror surfaces. There is no such thing as a coin that is *not* cameo. However, the nomenclature is interesting.

Proof trade dollars, minted from 1873 through 1883, then in reduced numbers for the next two years, have been a longtime favorite with collectors. Generally, those from 1879 through 1883 are more available than are those of earlier dates. The bump in the production of the 1880 Proof trade dollar is caused by a flurry of investment speculation, in late 1879 and early 1880. The passion quickly faded. Likely, many of the pieces bought by investors were later turned in for bullion. Today, relatively few superb gem examples survive.

PCGS Population: 5; none finer within the designation.

Stunning Gem 1880 Trade Dollar

Proof with Iridescent Toning



813 **1880 Proof-65 (NGC).** A lovely Proof with iridescent toning, this coin no doubt traces its ancestry to an old-time collection. At the center the toning is lilac, changing to blue and then gold at the borders, the ever-popular "album" or "halo" toning that is in such great demand. Add to that the status of the 1880 as a Proof-only issue and you have a winner.

Superb Gem 1882 Trade Dollar



814 **1882 Proof-66 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant and beautiful. Deep mirror surfaces highlight frosty designs. A low-mintage Proof-only trade dollar that has been popular as long as we can remember—no matter what the surrounding market may be. Quality such as this is elusive.

NGC Census: 5; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-68 Ultra Cameo finest).

GOLD DOLLARS

Gold dollars, the smallest U.S. denomination struck in the precious metal, are out in force in this sale! Many rarities from the Charlotte and Dahlonega mints are present, including a choice AU-55 1855-C, a pleasing choice AU-58 1858-D, and a gem Mint State-65 1859-D! Gorgeous gem Proofs of many of the later dates are present as well, and a few gold dollar error coins are featured for those who appreciate such esoteric numismatic dainties. If gold dollars are your denomination of choice, the wide selection offered here will prove to be a veritable smorgasbord of rarities and a source for high-grade additions to your collection!

815 **Sextette of gold dollars:** ☆ 1849 Open Wreath, Small Head, L on Truncation. Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-55, lightly cleaned ☆ 1849 Open Wreath, Large Head, L on Truncation. Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-55, lightly cleaned ☆ 1849 Close Wreath, L on Truncation. Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-58, lightly cleaned ☆ 1853 AU-58. Satiny lustre ☆ 1873 Open 3. (2). AU-55. Lustrous yellow gold; one Net F-15; sharpness of EF-45, polished, mint removed. (Total: 6 pieces)

816 **Group of gold dollar errors:** ☆ 1849 Open Wreath, With L. Net EF-45, sharpness of AU-53, lightly cleaned. Recut 1 in date, boldly recut star at 5:00 ☆ 1853 EF-45. A large square struck-through covers 3 stars from 8:00 to 10:00 as well as Liberty's profile ☆ 1853 EF-45. Reverse struck through grease, with a large depression obscuring LARS and the last two date digits ☆ 1854 Type I. AU-58. Central reverse struck through grease ☆ 1854 Type I. EF-45. Southwest quadrant of reverse struck through grease ☆ 1854 Type II. Net VG-10, sharpness of VF-25, holed at 12:00. An extremely rare partial collar error with the collar not reaching the rim adjacent to the base of the reverse. (Total: 6 pieces)



817 **1849-D Net VF-35, sharpness of AU-50.** This 1849-D gold dollar does not fit conveniently into any single grading number, so we take the time to describe it in detail. The piece has somewhat wavy fields, slightly bulged on the reverse, slightly lower on the obverse. This coin may have had a difficult birth, as it is off center, with the top obverse rim being significantly wider than the bottom obverse rim, and on the reverse, on the opposite side of the coin, one part of the rim is wider than the other. A few marks are seen here and there among a generous amount of original mint lustre. Some marks are noted at the rim. This coin invites in-person inspection from any interested gold dollar enthusiast.

818 1849-O AU-55. Bright and attractive. A nice example, lightly circulated, but retaining much of its original mint lustre.

The obverse is in high relief, fairly well struck except for some of the central hair features, and from a *shattered die*. The specialist may wish to acquire this example for these characteristics alone—certainly quite unusual—just the thing that the late Harry W. Bass, Jr., would have appreciated. The reverse, in shallower relief, with some of the berries disconnected and the bottom of the date light, no doubt from basining, is a different study. It also is cracked, notably in the 2:00 position.

1850-C Gold Dollar



819 **1850-C Net VF-30;** sharpness of AU-55, heavily polished. The second gold dollar issue of the Charlotte Mint, and one of only 6,966 produced. Housed in an ANACS holder labeled "Genuine."

Lustrous 1851-D Gold Dollar



820 **1851-D AU-55 (PCGS).** A splendid example with warm yellow gold surfaces, very appealing overall. Well struck at the borders, some lightness at the highest hair points of Miss Liberty (common for this issue), and with the center of the reverse well defined.

Under magnification some interesting clash marks can be seen on the reverse. Within the wreath is the entire outline of the head of Miss Liberty, while at the lower left are clearly outlined stars in reverse, quite unusual in our experience (while the head of Miss Liberty is often seen in clash form the stars are not). From the center through the last two date numerals, through the right side of I (AMERICA) to the border is a prominent die crack.



821 **1852-D Net EF-40, sharpness of AU-50.** An interesting and important example, this is another gold dollar for which in-person inspection is recommended. The coin has been lightly cleaned, has a planchet fissure on the cheek, displays some marks, etc. The striking is very sharp, with all details well defined. Much original mint lustre is still visible. On the reverse there are some peripheral cracks at the 2:00 and 4:30 positions. The reverse details are especially sharp.



822 **1852-D Net EF-40 (ANACS).** "AU details." Light yellow gold. Much mint lustre still remains. A cut is seen in the obverse rim at 2:00, some smaller marks are present as well, and on the reverse there is a scratch left of the denomination. *Other than that* the coin is quite attractive, well struck except for the center of the obverse, and desirable. There are some clash marks on obverse and reverse and a die crack on the reverse. The certified description by ANACS of a net grade, plus narrative, should generate a satisfactory word picture of the piece at hand.

823 **Pair of gold dollar errors** ☆ 1853 AU-58. A massive oblong struck-through obscures the central reverse from ED of UNITED to the wreath beneath CA of AMERICA. A significant error. The date is better made out from arm's length than under magnified scrutiny ☆ 1861 Net AU-55, sharpness of AU-58, lightly cleaned. Medal turn, or struck with a 180° rotated reverse. An unusual piece. (Total: 2 pieces)



824 **1853-C EF-40.** Another scarce gold dollar, this 1853-C requires more explanation than a simple grading number. The piece has sustained some marks here and there, particularly on the rim. On the reverse, at the lower left there is a large planchet lamination, almost, but not quite carrying away the mintmark, but resulting in a flake or void to the left of the mintmark—perhaps making this desirable to the collector of mint errors as well as the collector of gold dollars. The strike is quite light at the centers, particularly on the reverse.

825 **Trio of gold dollars,** representing each of the three design types: ☆ 1854-S. Type I. AU-55, lightly cleaned and with minor scratches. Sharply struck ☆ 1855-O. Type II. EF-45, lightly cleaned and with light scratches ☆ 1870-S. Type III. AU-55 Light scratches. An interesting trio of mintmarked pieces, issues not typically seen. (Total: 3 pieces)

826 **1854 Type II. AU-55.** Light yellow gold. Satiny lustre in some areas. *Very well struck* with bold date and center, the exception to the rule. A nice example at this level of the Type II gold dollar, far and away the scarcest of the three major designs.

827 **1855 AU-53 (NGC).** Light yellow gold surfaces. Much lustre remains in the protected surfaces.

The die pair shows clashing on the obverse and reverse, with traces of the wreath outline visible behind the head of Miss Liberty and before her forehead, and, on the reverse, the profile of Miss Liberty within the wreath. There is some lightness of strike at LL (DOLLAR) due to the characteristics of the design (furnishing the reason why in 1856 this motif was eliminated and a portrait of Miss Liberty, larger and shallower, was adopted).

From the Richmond Collection.

828 **Pair of gold dollars:** ☆ 1855 Type II. EF-40. Olive-gold with red gold at the peripheries ☆ 1874 Type III. MS-62. Satiny lustre with rose highlights. (Total: 2 pieces)

Important 1855-C Gold Dollar Rarity
Lustrous AU



829 **1855-C AU-55 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen, one the specialist will really appreciate! The 1855-C is well known for its rusticity, with all known examples produced by inattentive workers, or by some other means resulting in coins that have irregular planchets, bulged or damaged dies, soft striking, or all of these. This is characteristic of the 1855-C and is to be expected.

Under close examination the obverse die is seen to be bulged in front of the neck, continuing to N (UNITED). The dies have clashed, with evidence prominent on both sides of the figure, together with what seem to be some die finish lines in front of the forehead. The planchet is complete, even lustrous, but is somewhat irregular. A mark (acquired after striking) is seen at the rim above T (UNITED) and may serve to link this coin with an earlier photographed offering. Who knows?

The reverse is fairly sharp, with most details of the wreath delineated, the bottom part being an exception, where lightness of strike has served to accent some *original features of the planchet,* which can be seen at the ribbon. In the date the first two digits are somewhat lightly struck. The original mint lustre is extensive and covers most of the coin.

The 1855-C has been in the limelight for a long time, both from its desirability as a rare Charlotte issue and, perhaps, even more as the only Charlotte gold dollar of the Type II variety. The present coin, described in some detail (we respectfully suggest that a grading *number* is not enough), will attract many bids. It is one of the nicest we have seen.

Lustrous 1856 Gold Dollar
Upright 5 in Date



830 **1856 Upright 5. MS-64 (PCGS).** A brilliant and lustrous example with satiny surfaces, the obverse having the type of surface quality typically seen on Type II gold dollars, less so on the Type III. On the obverse the striking is somewhat light at the tops of the ostrich plumes. The reverse is quite well struck, save for some scarcely noticeable lightness in the 5, but still it is clear. The overall quality is exceptional, enough that we would rate this in the top 20% we have seen classified as MS-64

The Upright 5 variety is significantly rarer than the Slanting 5 variety, although the *Guide Book,* for one does not give a large differential in price. The specialist will find the present piece to be very desirable.

Rare 1856 Off-Center Gold $1
A Major Error



831 **1856 12% off center. AU-50.** Pleasing medium yellow gold with good lustre and frosty surfaces. A remarkable error, one of the most significant we have seen on this denomination. Misstruck to the exact 3:00 position by a massive margin, with the tops of AMER affected by the rim and the upper left corner of the wreath likewise affected. As is commonly known by error coin enthusiasts, *any* error on a gold coin is very rare, making even minuscule off-center mistakes significant to specialists in misstrikes or those assembling error coin type sets. A gold dollar struck this far off-center is extremely rare, and pieces very infrequently trade publicly. Of the small collection of gold dollar errors consigned to this sale, this piece is the most off-center and the most eye-catching.



832 **1856-S Type II. Net EF-40, sharpness of AU-50.** The obverse is pale gold with subdued lustre. Some lightness at the center hair details in the top of the plumes. The reverse is exceedingly sharply struck, well demonstrating the repunched S feature, and highlighting all the details of the wreath, dentils, and elsewhere. Light clash marks are seen at the center.

The Type II is anachronistic and was struck only at the San Francisco Mint this year. For a long time this has been an exceedingly popular Type II variety.

Another Rare Off-Center Gold $1

1857



833 **1857 9% off center. EF-45.** Medium yellow gold with some lustre and a few light hairlines. Good eye appeal, tiny nick under E of AMERICA and a J-shaped scratch right of 1 on the reverse. Misstruck to about 7:00, with a good deal of unstruck planchet atop the obverse and at the right base of the reverse. Plain edge, this may be better described as an uncentered broadstrike. A significant gold dollar error.

Incredible Gem 1858 Proof Gold $1

An American Classic

None Finer Graded



834 **1858 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** It is not known how many Proof dollars were struck in 1858. The procedure seems to have been that gold Proofs could be ordered individually, resulting in more dollars being applied for than other denominations. In contrast apparently just a handful of Proof double eagles were distributed (in his building of a *complete* set of gold Proofs from 1858 onward, the late Ed Trompeter lacked only the 1858 $20 for completion). Today on occasion a Proof 1858 dollar will come on the market, but not often. Often *years* will elapse between our having one to present for sale. The chronology and market history of gold dollars is particularly fascinating and one of these days we may issue a monograph on the series. Regarding the 1858, it has been highly thought of for a long time, and a number of interesting mentions of it can be found in historical texts.

The present piece is simply breathtaking in its quality, having deep mirror surfaces against which frosted cameo motifs are set, yielding a Proof-66 Cameo designation by NGC, one of only four *events* at this level. We say *events* as this does not necessarily represent different coins. When pieces of this value are involved, sometimes coins are sent in again and again, and still again.

To see this coin is to love it. It is simply gorgeous to behold, and among gold dollars it has always been a highly prized rarity.

NGC Census: 4; none finer within any designation.

Important 1858-D Gold Dollar



835 **1858-D AU-58 (NGC).** Rich orange-yellow surfaces and lustre characterize this example of the important and rare 1858-D gold dollar. All Dahlonega gold dollar issues are elusive, particularly those toward the end of the series.

The present piece is above average in strike for a Dahlonega dollar, but does show some lightness at the centers and at the tops of the plumes. The letters are especially bold and are slightly doubled. The dentils are full. On the reverse, the "agricultural" wreath shows most of its details, the exception being a small area to the right of the knot. The date is full, although the 5 is somewhat light, as is characteristic. The mintmark is deep and bold in the die.

Just 3,477 examples were made of this gold dollar, one of the smallest figures in the early part of the series. Today the Charlotte and Dahlonega pieces play to a wide audience (more than do gold dollars of New Orleans and San Francisco). If you are working on a set, this 1858-D will be a delight.

The Norweb 1858-D Gold $1

Misaligned Obverse Die



836 **1858-D Misaligned obverse die. AU-55.** A highly desirable specimen of this challenging date. Medium yellow gold with abundant bright golden lustre surrounding design elements and peripheries. Two small nicks are noted on the rim right of 6:00, and a minor dig is present on Liberty's chin. While the reverse is centered, the obverse is misaligned to 12:00 and a very wide rim is noted at the base of the obverse. There is no reeding between 10:00 and 12:00 relative to the obverse. An unusual and noteworthy specimen, called "a top echelon example" in Norweb and made more interesting by its erroneous strike.

Purchased before 1913 from J.W. Scott & Co. by Albert F. Holden; Bowers and Merena's sale of the Norweb Collection, Part II, November 1988, Lot 1889 (@ $1,760).

Incredible 1859-D Gold Dollar

Gem Mint State
Finest and Only Graded by NGC
Superb Eye Appeal



837 **1859-D MS-65 (NGC).** For the specialist in Dahlonega gold coins this may represent a dream come true—rub your eyes and you are in numismatic heaven! Graded MS-65, no other has achieved this level under the gazes of the experts of NGC, and none finer either. Both obverse and reverse are deeply and richly lustrous, not always the case with 1859-D, but very much in evidence here. The strike has some lightness on the ostrich plume tips and the center parts of the hair on the obverse, and at the wreath bow and center of the date on the reverse, this being true of all authentic specimens. Accordingly, these need not be mentioned (but we do anyway). The reverse shows horizontal die striae or finish marks, particularly evident at the center. These may have been from relapping, to remove traces of clashing, although some clash marks are still evident to the left and right of the denomination numeral. We will have to have Doug Winter inspect this during lot viewing and ask him his thoughts.

Of the 1859-D gold dollar just 4,952 were struck. None were numismatically saved at the time, and thus survival of high-grade pieces is a matter of chance. For the 1859-D, "high grade" nicely describes anything from AU-58 to MS-61 to 62. The present MS-65 is off the charts.

We have been honored to have handled a number of specialized collections of Dahlonega coins over the years, always a pleasure. These pieces are rustic, and their die characteristics provide never-ending fascination. The typical grade across the board for a Dahlonega set, including the gold dollars, quarter eagles, and half eagles, not to forget the 1854-D $3, is apt to be EF or AU. Occasionally a Mint State coin is seen, but not often. Regarding truly gem MS-65 for *any* Dahlonega coin, these are in the realm of theory, not practicality. Occasionally we are all surprised, as with the present piece.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

838 **Trio of gold dollars grading MS-60** ☆ 1869. Scratches ☆ 1870. Cleaned and scratches ☆ 1871. Lightly cleaned. In-person inspection is recommended. (Total: 3 pieces)

Classic 1875 Gold Dollar Rarity

Prooflike Mint State



839 **1875 MS-61 (NGC).** A splendid example of *the* Philadelphia Mint coin among United States gold dollars. Just 400 circulation strikes were minted, and this is one of them. All are from the same obverse die, prooflike, and with a tiny "thorn" projecting from the bottom of Miss Liberty's chin, right before the neck (Proofs of this date lack the thorn). Bright yellow gold surfaces.

Superb Gem Proof 1877 Gold Dollar Rarity

Top of the NGC Roster



840 **1877 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** A superb gem specimen with the highest number assigned by NGC, none finer. How many exist at the Proof-66 level is not known, due to resubmissions.

The present piece is well struck, has deep mirrored surfaces with the highly desired "orange peel" texture, is light golden orange color, and is beautiful in every respect.

NGC Census: 5; none finer within the designation.

Mint records state that only 20 Proofs were struck of this date, a figure we have no reason to question. Examples come on the market infrequently, and even less often are gems such as this encountered. The 1877 is scarce in all grades, rare in Proof, and exceedingly rare in superb gem Proof—adding up to a marvelous purchase opportunity.

Superb Gem 1877 Gold Dollar



841 **1877 MS-65 or finer.** A superb specimen which displays deep, rich lustre, nice strike, and superb eye appeal. Call it MS-65, as here, or call it MS-66 or even a notch higher-it is *that* nice!

Just 3,900 circulation strikes were produced this year. Not often do we encounter one with the combination of assets just mentioned. This was two years prior to the general popular speculation in gold dollars (which began in 1879). Accordingly, pieces dated prior to 1879 are significantly scarcer in Mint State, in relation to their mintage figures, than are those from 1879 through 1889.

Ultra Grade, Ultra Quality 1881 Gold $1



842 **1881 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** The present sale contains many incredible coins, and this is one of them. Graded Proof-67 Ultra Cameo by NGC, it is in company with only a single other grading event, with none higher. The obverse and reverse represent virtual perfection in a Proof gold dollar—crisply delineated frosty motifs, letters, and numerals, set against deep mirror fields, with the popular "orange peel" texture to the mirrored surfaces, this being especially desired. The audience for this coin will be wide and will include gold dollar specialists, type set collectors, and perhaps those who would simply like to bag a numismatic trophy.

NGC Census: 2; none finer within any designation.

Stunning Gem 1885 Gold Dollar



843 **1885 Proof-66 (PCGS).** A splendid Proof gold dollar, this coin is quality personified. Frosty motifs, letters, and numerals, all with needle-sharp detail are set against rich orange-yellow deep mirror surfaces with "orange peel" texture. Mint records show that 1,105 were struck this year, probably either incorrect or representing quite a few that may have been wholesaled for jewelry purposes.

Production data are wildly inaccurate for certain gold issues, no more so than for the 1889 at the end of the decade, for which an amazing 1,779 Proofs were said to have been struck, but students of the series, the writer included, consider this to be the rarest Proof of the decade, handily outshining such issues as 1880 (with a recorded mintage of just 36) and 1881 (87 coined). Contemplating the unknown is always interesting and we probably will never know how many Proofs were actually distributed.

High-Grade Off-Center 1886 $1



844 **1886 8% off center. AU-58.** Fully lustrous rich yellow gold with excellent eye appeal. Misstruck to 7:30 or so, with an unstruck area outside S OF AMERIC on the obverse and a large raised cup-shaped rim on the right side of the reverse. Plain edge. A frosty delight, rare as an off-center gold dollar and made more desirable by its condition and aesthetic appeal.

It may be discerned from this coin that reverse dies were in the top position when this coin was struck at the Mint.

Proof 1887 Gold Dollar



845 **1887 Proof-60 (NCS).** A rather curious labeling this coin has, "Proof, improperly cleaned." The attribution is by the Numismatic Certification Service. No number is assigned. However, all coins deserve attention, and pieces that have been "hurt" are often described as such by ANACS, but not by PCGS or NGC. NCS, a new player in the game, is therefore welcomed. As to whether the term "improperly" will help sell a coin such as this remains to be seen. Perhaps a gentler adjective could be thought of. On the other hand, reality is reality. This piece seems to have been lightly brushed, perhaps following instructions given in *The Numismatist,* by ANA President J. Henry Ripstra many years ago (bad advice was frequently given, including by hobby leaders). In any event, the present piece, described at length, is sharply struck, brilliant, but on both sides has hairlines in the field. The piece does have merit, is elusive as a Proof, and should well be the object of in-person inspection.

Gem Proof 1888 Gold Dollar



846 **1888 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** "As you like it," this piece will satisfy the most discriminating buyer. Never dipped to lighten it, the coin has warm orange gold color as acquired over a long period of years. Under magnification a tiny planchet chip is seen on Miss Liberty's cheek and a tiny toning fleck on her nose, neither of which is particularly important in the overall scheme of things, especially as the certification grade is given as Proof-66, not Proof-67 or Proof-68. The fields are of the popular "orange peel" surface seen on Proof gold of this era, the exact explanation for which we are not certain.

Although mintage figures suggest that 1,079 Proofs were struck of the 1888 gold dollar, the relative scarcity of examples on the market today suggests that this figure may be wildly in error. We *know* that for the next year, 1889, the production of 1,779 Proofs has no meaning whatsoever, for specialists consider that to be by far the rarest Proof gold dollar of the entire decade! Such are the mysteries of Mint data.

PCGS Population: 8; 3 finer within the designation (Proof-66 Cameo finest

QUARTER EAGLES

Early gold quarter eagles include a Mint State 1797, one of just 427 pieces reportedly struck, with another example of the date offered in highly collectable VF-35. An 1804 in AU-58 is here as well, as is a Mint State 1807. Only 760 1826/5 quarter eagles were produced, and we have a beauty—an AU-55 example that is every bit the coin the holder proclaims it to be. A wealth of Liberty quarter eagles from all the branch mints actively producing the denomination in the 19th century can be found here as well, with a glittering gem Proof-66 1858 being one of the highlights of the series as well as one of the highlights of the entire catalogue (no easy feat when you consider the overall depth and quality of the coins presented within!). Proofs of 1859 (Proof-66), 1865 (Proof-65 Ultra Cameo), 1906, and 1907 are also found, and the key to the series, the rare and desirable 1875, is offered in AU-50 grade! The section ends with a nice run of Indian quarter eagles, including multiple examples of the key date 1911-D issue.

Museum Quality 1797 Quarter Eagle
Mint State, Among Finest Known



847 1797 Breen-1. Rarity-5. MS-60 (NGC). A lovely specimen, MS-60, and one of relatively few graded at this level or higher. The 1797 quarter eagle is elusive in any and all grades, with a reported mintage of just 427 pieces. When seen, the typical assignment is VF or EF, sometimes AU, but not often Mint State.

The present coin is bright yellow, has some friction on both sides (defining the grade), and on the obverse has the distinctive die crack from the upper right to the lower right. The reverse is somewhat prooflike, and if it could be graded separately, might be called MS-62. The striking details are quite good on both sides. Among all early quarter eagles this is one of the most difficult to find in higher grades. As such, the opportunity should be carefully considered.

NGC Census: 1; 1 finer (MS-64).

While the 1796 No Stars may get all the attention among 18th-century quarter eagles, largely from type collectors, the 1797 rivals or surpasses it in elusiveness and is definitely rarer in high grades. Our October sale offered the unusual opportunity of two (!) 1797 quarter eagles: one was graded VF-30 (PCGS) and sold for $33,350 and the other was only VG-8 (NGC) but of a unique die state and sold for $23,000. A similarly unusual opportunity awaits here.

Rare 1797 Quarter Eagle



(2x photo)

848 **1797 B-1. Rarity-5. VF-35 (NGC).** Another example of this, the only variety of the year and one of the most elusive issues in the series. Rich yellow gold with attractive coppery toning around peripheral design elements. As expected at this grade level, the surfaces show many tiny scattered nicks and some scattered hairlines, but the overall visual impression is positive. This piece is of the usual die state, with the heavy crack descending into the right obverse field, but its circulation places it within the reach of most who would try to obtain this rare date for their collection.

NGC Census: 3; 9 finer (MS-64 finest).

Beautiful 1804 Quarter Eagle

14 Reverse Stars



(2x photo)

849 **1804 B-1. Rarity-4. 14 Reverse Stars. AU-58 (NGC).** A beautiful example of this scarce early quarter eagle, the variety of this year usually seen, with 14 stars. The identical die was used to strike certain 1804-dated dimes. This was possible as neither the dime nor the quarter eagle bore any mark of value.

The obverse depicts Miss Liberty wearing a conical cap, eight stars to the left, and five to the right. At the upper right is LIBERTY, and below is the date. The numerals and the font are not particularly well matched and the 8 is larger and heavier than the others. On the reverse above the eagle there are 14 stars, a die cutting error, as 13 would have been correct. The coin is in bright yellow gold, retains some lustre, and is very attractive.

1807 Type Set Candidate $2.50

Attractive Mint State



(2x photo)

850 **1807 B-1. Rarity-3. MS-61 (NGC).** Among early quarter eagles of the type with Miss Liberty wearing a conical cap, in combination the Heraldic Eagle reverse, the 1807 is most often seen. However, when such an event occurs the piece under observation is likely to be less than Mint State. The present coin is an attractive MS-61, well struck in light yellow gold, and is one of the nicest in existence at this level. As such, we nominate it for inclusion in a type set.

Important 1826/5 Quarter Eagle

Much Lustre Remaining



(2x photo)

851 **1826/5 B-1. Rarity-5. AU-55 (PCGS).** An attractive example of this key issue, retaining much lustre. Light yellow gold. Some light evidence of die clashing, particularly on the reverse. Typical strike with some stars light at the centers. According to Mint records, just *760 were struck*. Likely this represents the number produced in this given calendar year, but not necessarily from this obverse die. Probably a few more were made using dies of earlier dates. However, in any event the 1826/5 is recognized as one of the most important early quarter eagles, a piece that is usually seen only in major offerings such as the present.

PCGS Population: 3; 6 finer (MS-61 finest).

Mint State 1839 $2.50



(2x photo)

852 **1839 MS-62 (NGC).** A lovely specimen sharply struck in nearly all details, and with ample mint lustre. A very nice specimen of the very last year of the Classic Head type.

853 **1839-O Net EF-45 (ANACS).** "AU details." Medium gold surfaces. A scratch is seen on the reverse above the eagle's neck, and a few marks are noted here and there, factored in by the grading service which has suggested, "scratched, cleaned." As to the "cleaned" part, this is not particularly important, as to our eye there is no negative (besides, zillions of cleaned coins exist in certified holders and they are not mentioned at all). For someone this will be a worthwhile purchase of the first New Orleans Mint quarter eagle and the only Classic Head piece from this source.

AU 1840 Quarter Eagle



854 **1840 AU-50 (NGC).** Pale yellow gold surfaces. Typical strike for the era, somewhat lightly defined at the centers and stars. In the quarter eagle series, 1840 was the first year of issue for Christian Gobrecht's Liberty Head or Coronet design.

Condition Census 1841-C $2.50
No Finer Graded by NGC



(2x photo)

855 **1841-C MS-62 (NGC).** Rich warm yellow-orange gold. Quite well struck, sharp in all areas save for a few details near the center. Partial wire rim on obverse and reverse. A lovely specimen that stands high in quality among the known examples of this rare Charlotte Mint issue. Indeed, NGC has certified only four (not necessarily all different) at this level and none finer.

NGC Census: 4, none finer



856 **1844-C EF-45 (PCGS).** An attractive example in bright yellow gold. Some lightness of strike as is characteristic of the issue. Microscopically matte surfaces, not reflected on the holder designation, suggest that this may have been part of a recovered undersea treasure.



857 **1844-D EF-45 (PCGS).** A pleasing example, fairly well struck at the borders, somewhat light at the centers, this being typical for the issue. Significant lustre still remains. Popular and elusive Dahlonega Mint variety. The present offering of quarter eagles contains enough delicacies that it might well inspire someone to become a specialist. It is very *exciting* just to catalogue them.



858 **1845-O Net VF-30, sharpness of EF-40.** A nice specimen at the indicated grade. Rich yellow gold. A couple of light scratches are seen on the reverse to the left of the eagle's beak.

This variety was not known to Augustus G. Heaton when he wrote his *Treatise on Mint Marks,* in 1893. One example came to light later, then another, and then another, once publicity spread. Today quite a few dozen are known, but the variety is still recognized as being elusive. The problem with the 1845-O had to do with the fact that none were listed in the *Annual Report of the Director of the Mint* for that year. Instead, the 4,000 pieces were listed in the 1846 report, but with the delivery date registered prior to the date that 1846-O dies arrived. Accordingly, by logic the pieces struck in January 1846 were actually 1845-O. Today, an appropriate number has been moved over to the proper column in the *Guide Book,* which does show 4,000.



859 **1846-O AU-50 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen in warm yellow-orange gold. Fairly well struck, save for some usual lightness below the shield. A coin with a good measure of eye appeal, and worth a premium as such.



860 **1850-O AU-55 (NGC).** Yellow gold surfaces, with decent lustre remaining. Typical strike showing usual lightness, most notably on the central portions of the eagle. A nice example of the date, mint, and grade which noted authority Doug Winter notes is "very rare" in AU, and "extremely rare" in Mint State.



861 **1856-O AU-50 (PCGS).** A lustrous, attractive, and very appealing example of the 1856-O, the present coin will satisfy the advanced specialist. Relatively few are this beautiful, irrespective of grade. Close attention is suggested, followed by an enthusiastic bid.

Remarkable 1856-S Quarter Eagle



(2x photo)

862 **1856-S MS-62 (PCGS).** A sharply struck specimen with satiny lustre, this quarter eagle combines eye appeal, high technical grade, and unquestioned numismatic desirability. Although some have been graded higher, no doubt from the viewpoint of overall quality this coin has much to offer. The 1856-S is usually seen in well-worn grades, VF and EF being typical, AU being unusual, and Mint State being rare. There are so few around that we cannot help but think that the number of certification events represents fewer different coins.

Glittering 1858 $2.50 Proof Rarity
Finest Graded by NGC



(2x photo)

863 **1858 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** The 1858 Proof quarter eagle is rarer than the 1858 Proof dollar earlier offered, and shares much of the same limelight and desirability. The number struck of the 1858 quarter eagle is not known, but the quantity must have been very small. Today, Proofs appear on the market only when significant offerings occur, such as old time collections.

NGC has graded just one Proof-66 Cameo, with none higher, the certification having taken place some years ago as this is in an "old" holder. Perhaps if resubmitted it might graduate to a higher level—who knows. The point is perhaps moot, as it is already the finest graded, and how can it be better than best?

The assembly of a complete date run of Proof quarter eagles from 1858 to 1915 is a possibility for prospective bidders, this coin being the linchpin to get you started in a dramatic way. Other pieces that you will need, including the famous Proof-only 1863, are all less rare than this. Quality, tradition, and beauty come together in this lovely piece, truly a memorable coin and truly a memorable occasion.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.



864 **1858-C Net EF-40;** sharpness of EF-45. Medium gold with some gray toning. Surfaces somewhat porous. Slightly bent. A rare date, but in impaired preservation, a coin that should be examined prior to bidding. Perhaps ANACS or NCS would holder this coin with an appropriate notation.

Finest Proof 1859 $2.50
Top of the PCGS Mountain



(2x photo)

865 **1859 Old Reverse. Proof-66 (PCGS).** Housed in an "old" holder, this piece is not marked Cameo, or Deep Cameo, or Ultra Deep Cameo (take your pick), but is all of these things in modern interpretations. However, when this piece was certified those terms were not used by PCGS. The obverse and reverse display frosted motifs, stars, letters, and numerals, set against deep mirror fields of the ever desirable "orange peel" texture. It would be difficult to imagine a finer coin, and for the record PCGS has not seen one, rather remarkable in view of the fact, per a recent news announcement, they've just graded their 10,000,000th coin. The number of Proof 1859 quarter eagles is not known. This particular piece has the old reverse, but we note that Proofs are listed in the *Guide Book* as the new reverse. Probably few numismatists would want one of each—somehow the reverse designations have not caught on strongly for this era in quarter eagle history. No matter, the figure of 80 may have represented the number struck, but it definitely did not represent the quantity distributed, as today only a tiny fraction of that number can be accounted for. Most likely, no more than a couple dozen or so were sold, if indeed that many.

Following our earlier suggestion that the 1858 quarter eagle would be a good jumping-off place for a set of Proofs, we invite the successful bidder, if he or she has elected to do this, pounce upon this piece as well. It could be that years will pass on the ANR auction calendar before we offer another of this quality.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

866 **1862 AU-58 (NGC).** An attractive example of this early Civil War date. The obverse and reverse are bright yellow, the fields somewhat prooflike. The striking is above average, but with some slight weakness, scarcely noticeable, at the lower left of the shield.

Beginning in the last days of 1861, and continuing on a widespread basis in January 1862, gold coins were no longer paid out by banks, in exchange for paper money. From this time onward, until December 17, 1878, gold coins of all kinds traded at a premium, sometimes even double the value of Legal Tender notes and related paper.

From the Richmond Collection.

Landmark Proof 1864 $2.50
Condition Census



(2x photo)

867 **1864 Proof-65 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** Here we go with another marvelous coin, a landmark Proof example of a quarter eagle rarity. Of the 1864, just 50 are said to have been struck, probably not at all relevant to the number distributed, especially seeing that 30 were reported in 1863 the year before, and 25 in 1865. As noted earlier in the present catalogue (see Proof gold dollars) Proof gold mintages can be wildly erratic.

Today the 1864 Proof quarter eagle is a first class rarity, this being true of its Proof status, the desirability of which is enhanced by the elusive nature of all quarter eagles of this year—circulation strikes are hardly ever seen (we note that the *Guide Book* prices a coin in AU at $30,000). The present coin has frosted cameo devices, all sharply defined, set against mirror surfaces. A few tiny marks are seen, especially under magnification, accounting for the grade. However, one cannot be particularly choosy as, first of all, the piece has terrific eye appeal and, secondly, it is one of the very finest in existence. Here is another Proof quarter eagle treasure.

NGC Census: 3; 1 finer (Proof-66 Ultra Cameo).

Rare 1875 Quarter Eagle
A Key to the Series



(2x photo)

868 **1875 Net AU-50 (ANACS).** A good bit finer for sharpness, perhaps AU-58 or even better, but unfortunately cleaned at one time leaving behind numerous hairlines. Also noted are a couple of small voids on the reverse, apparently due to a faulty planchet, and as made. Fortunately, the coin retains decent yellow gold color and aside from a few light nicks along the eagle's right wing, the surfaces do not show many marks that are particularly noteworthy. One of just 420 pieces produced, 400 business strikes and 20 Proofs, and as such an issue that is notable as having the second lowest circulation strike mintage of the entire quarter eagle series, even lower than the rarely seen 1796 With Stars issue! The 1854-S is the hands-down winner in terms of rarity, and examples are almost never seen. However, the 1875 quarter eagle (and the half

eagles and eagles of the same date for that matter) are extremely rare and highly desired in just about *any* grade. As such, the presently offered piece is an important opportunity, particularly for the collector who appreciates a decent looking coin, but does not require perfection.

869 **1878 MS-63 (PCGS).** Rich yellow-orange surfaces, highly lustrous, and well struck, characterize this lovely quarter eagle. Although it is graded MS-63, it is certainly "high end" within that category. The reason for this seems to be as follows, this being a more *complete* numismatic description: MS-65 from the standpoint of wear, lustrous, frosty, and attractive, but with carbon occlusion above the eye of Miss Liberty, and with some carbon flecks, as in the planchet strip, at stars 7 and 8. Accordingly, this piece would seem to have a *market value* of an MS-63 coin, although it is technically graded higher.

Proofline 1878-S $2.50



(2x photo)

870 **1878-S MS-64 (ICG).** Lovely orange gold prooflike surfaces, sufficiently so that if it were a Morgan dollar it would probably be called PL or DMPL. On the reverse a copper toning area is seen at the border above E (UNITED). A splendid coin, scarce so fine.

Choice Proof 1906 Quarter Eagle



(2x photo)

871 **1906 Proof-64 Cameo (PCGS).** Brilliant and attractive, warm yellow gold surfaces. Portrait of Miss Liberty somewhat satiny, not particularly "cameo," this being true of Proofs after 1902 (when the Mint decided to lightly polish the portraits on the coins, in contrast from earlier times). However, "cameo" seems to be a popular designation, and we have even seen it on Proofs of 1902. It may make no difference, as each and every Proof 1906 quarter eagle seems to have been struck from the same die pair, and they are either all "cameo" or they are all not cameo, take your choice.

PCGS Population: 6; 10 finer within the designation (Proof-67 Cameo finest).

Superb Gem Proof 1907 $2.50



(2x photo)

872 **1907 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** Sharply struck and brilliant. A superb Proof example in bright yellow-orange gold, of the last year of this long-lived design. Not often found so choice.

Superb Proof 1907 Quarter Eagle



(2x photo)

873 **1907 Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** Another superb specimen of the last year of the Liberty Head quarter eagle. The present coin is a warm yellow-orange gold. The portrait is lightly polished in the die, common to all other 1907 quarter eagle Proofs.

PCGS Population: 6; 4 finer within the designation (Proof-68 Cameo finest).

Choice 1908 Indian $2.50

First Year of Issue



874 **1908 MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous, and with good eye appeal, the last comment not necessarily appropriate to all others.

The Indian Head quarter eagle by Bela Lyon Pratt, a student of the late Augustus Saint-Gaudens, was poorly reviewed in numismatic periodicals of its day. In fact, perhaps in contrast to the lavish praise heaped upon the MCMVII double eagle in the previous year, collectors and dealers went out of their way to say unfavorable things about the Indian motif. As many collectors follow what they read in print, this was a turnoff to the collecting of them, and very few numismatists endeavored to save the type by date and mintmark sequence. More were set aside of the 1908, due to the novelty of the first year of issue, but still they are hardly common in relation to the demand for them.

The obverse features a male Indian chief, similar to life, rather than the fanciful representation on the current Indian Head cent. This is more like the Series of 1899 Silver Certificate, also modeled on reality. The reverse illustrates a perched eagle, one of Saint-Gaudens' favorite poses for the national bird, used on his unofficial maugural medal for Theodore Roosevelt. 1905, as well as on the reverse of the Indian Head $10 of 1907, among other places.

Choice 1911-D Quarter Eagle

Key to the Series



(2x photo)

875 **1911-D MS-63 (PCGS).** A choice, lovely specimen with rich lustre. Nicely struck and with superb eye appeal. Variety with sharp D mintmark (some have a weak mintmark). This is truly an outstanding example of the key issue in the Indian Head quarter eagle series, 1911-1929, far ahead of its closest competition.

Key 1911-D Quarter Eagle

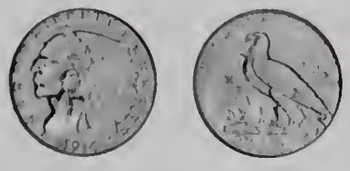


(2x photo)

876 **1911-D MS-62 (NGC).** A brilliant, lustrous, and attractive example of the highly important 1911-D quarter eagle. The present piece is from the reverse die with sharp D mintmark, an important consideration.

877 **Trio of Indian quarter eagles grading MS-61 (NGC):** ☆ 1912. Lustrous rose-gold ☆ 1928. Lustrous yellow gold ☆ 1929. Lustrous with hints of rose. (Total: 3 pieces)

Scarce 1914 Quarter Eagle



878 **1914 MS-62 (PCGS).** Brilliant with rich original mint lustre. A very attractive coin, certainly a "high end" MS-62. Among Philadelphia Mint quarter eagles the 1914 is somewhat of a *sleeper.* The present piece has much to offer in the way of quality and elusive character.



879 **1914-D MS-62 (PCGS).** Lustrous surfaces orange gold surfaces. Popular mintmark.

880 **1914-D MS-62.** Lustrous gold surfaces with some hints of magenta. Popular Denver Mint issue.

Choice 1915 Quarter Eagle



881 **1915 MS-64 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous light yellow gold. A very nice example of this Philadelphia Mint issue.

882 **Pair of Indian quarter eagles grading MS-62 (NGC):** ☆ 1915 ☆ 1928. Both with lustrous and attractive yellow gold surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

Choice Mint State 1925-D Quarter Eagle



883 **1925-D MS-64 (NGC).** A lustrous example in warm yellow-orange gold. Well struck. Quarter eagles of the 1925-D variety can often vary widely in quality. This is a particularly nice one. It is further distinguished as being the last Denver Mint coin made of that denomination.

Quarter eagles of the Indian Head type were struck from 1908 through 1915, after which production ceased, to resume in 1925 at the Denver Mint. A curious footnote in numismatics is that although quarter eagles were made from 1925 through 1929, they were not available for face value at banks, but only at a premium. Tellers and cashiers could not get enough of them, and when they arrived they were able to charge a 25¢ to 50¢ premium each for those who desired to acquire them as souvenirs.

884 1925-D MS-62. Lustrous and attractive.

THREE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES

An impressive—and rare—1854-D in MS-61 is one of the first coins within the denomination offered, and it makes for an auspicious beginning to the parade of rarities that follows. Choice AU examples of 1867 (ex Virgil Brand) and 1868 are found here, and a Proof-65 Ultra Cameo 1878—tied for finest graded by NGC, and one of just 20 pieces reportedly struck—is surely a highlight. All in all, the present offering is chock full of pleasing coins, some rare, some more readily available, but all certain to excite and delight their next owner.

Lustrous 1854 $3 Gold

First Year of Issue



885 **1854 MS-62 (PCGS).** A richly lustrous and very attractive example of the 1854 $3 gold, the first year of issue. On the reverse the word DOLLARS is in smaller letters than in later years. Both obverse and reverse have satiny lustre in a warm and very appealing orange gold hue. This piece will serve well in a type set.

Lovely 1854 Gold $3



886 **1854 MS-61 (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous, and lovely. An ideal candidate for a type set.

High-Grade 1854-D $3



(2x photo)

887 **1854-D MS-61 (NGC).** Brilliant lustrous gold. Some microscopic porosity, perhaps taken from a shipwreck? Certified as MS-61 by NGC, but worthy of a bit more in the way of explanation. Both obverse and reverse are light yellow, microscopically porous, as noted, and show the typical strike for 1854-D. There is some lightness at the hair curls at the center and trivial lightness, scarcely worth mentioning, at the end of the plumes. The reverse is extremely bold, this including the ribbon as well as the date. To the left and right there is some weakness at the dentils, this being true of all but two known authentic specimens, one of which is on display at ANA Headquarters in Colorado Springs as part of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection.

In a forthcoming study on $3 pieces to be released by American Numismatic Rarities (details soon), the 1854-D and other varieties are discussed in fascinating detail. It will be seen that this particular variety has an especially rich numismatic background, with the vast majority of pieces in grades significantly below this.

NGC Census: 5; 1 finer (MS-62).

Rare 1867 $3 Gold

From the Brand Collection



888 **1867 AU-55 PL.** Brilliant and somewhat prooflike. Well struck. A lovely specimen that traces its pedigree to Virgil M. Brand, the greatest super-collector of all times in terms of the quantity and value of coins he acquired—over 350,000 at the time of his death in 1926. Dave Bowers' book *Virgil Brand: The Man and his Era,* traces the fascinating collecting career of this fine gentleman, who in addition to having the greatest collection of all times, was a very knowledgeable numismatist.

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Virgil Brand Collection, November 1983, Lot 234.

Low-Mintage 1868 $3



889 **1868 AU-58.** An attractive example, well struck, and lustrous, of one of the scarcer dates in the series. Just 4,850 circulation strikes were made of the 1868, and yet, as is the case with many of the $3 pieces, the elusive nature has been overlooked by the market, and this coin is likely to be surprisingly affordable.

From Stack's sale of March 1995, Lot 437.

Lustrous 1874 $3 Gold



890 **1874 AU-58 (PCGS).** A brilliant, lustrous specimen which closely approaches the Mint State level. In fact, it is every bit as nice as some that have achieved that designation. Some contact and other marks are seen on the obverse, no doubt accounting for the grade.

Incredibly Rare 1878 Proof $3

One of 20 Coined
High Condition Census



(2x photo)

891 **1878 Proof-65 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** In the world of Proof $3 pieces a mintage of 20 approaches the vanishing point—few pieces are rarer than this. In fact, few issues have a lower production. The number known today is not certain, but is probably fewer than 15, projecting this into the front row of classic pieces. Over a long period of time we have had more of the famous 1875 Proof $3 coins than we have of the 1878.

The present piece is one of just three certification events at NGC at the Proof-65 Ultra Cameo designation, with none finer. In reviewing certification data for various Proof rarities a generous grain of salt must be taken, as such pieces are so valuable that they are often submitted multiple times, this reference being to all Proofs across the board. The devices are frosty cameo set against deep mirror surfaces with "orange peel" texture. For the connoisseur who has seen just about everything and has just about everything, this no doubt will be a tantalizing possibility.

NGC Census: 3; none finer within the designation.

Choice Mint State 1878 $3



(2x photo)

892 **1878 MS-63 (PCGS).** A lovely example, highly prooflike, which is not usually the case for the 1878 date. Although quite a few MS-63 coins exist, among these this is one of the nicest from the standpoint of eye appeal. The details are sharply struck on both obverse and reverse. The color is a warm yellow-orange gold. All told this is a beautiful coin, ideal for consideration for a type set.

Attractive 1878 $3 Gold



893 **1878 AU-58 (PCGS).** An attractive and highly lustrous example of this popular date. Some friction is seen on the obverse and no doubt determined the grade.



894 **1878 AU-55 PL.** Brilliant with somewhat prooflike surfaces. A nice example, within the grade, of the most readily available later date in the series.

1882 $3 Gold



895 **1882 Net AU-58;** sharpness of MS-62, but lightly cleaned with hairlines visible in the fields. However, the eye appeal is not severely disrupted, the piece is semi-prooflike and still quite appealing. Variety with doubled 2 in date, the earlier punched one about 50% higher than the final position.

Splendid Proof 1883 $3
Cameo Gem



(2x photo)

896 **1883 Proof-65 Cameo (ANACS).** A lovely cameo Proof of this desirable date, one of just 89 Proofs struck and one of only 989 coins altogether, the other 900 being circulation strikes. One of the relatively few 19th-century gold coins that have total mintages below the 1,000 mark. The present piece will serve well for the specialist or type collector. This beautiful and rare coin will attract wide attention as it is sold.

Splendid Prooflike 1885 $3



(2x photo)

897 **1885 MS-62 PL (ANACS).** Sometimes a delineation between a *circulation strike* and a *Proof* is very difficult to make, and such a situation is here. To all intents and purposes it appears to be a Proof, even with orange peel surfaces, but a close technical inspection reveals it is a circulation strike. The coin is very attractive, with a few contact marks defining the grade, but not significantly reducing the eye appeal.

Only 801 $3 pieces of 1885 were struck for circulation, one of the smallest production figures of any circulating coin from the establishment of the Mint in 1792, to the present day. This specimen combines attractive appearance and rarity and will occupy an honored spot in the collection of its next owner.

Low-Mintage 1888 $3



898 **1888 AU-58 (PCGS).** A lustrous example of this low-mintage date. The present coin is just a whisper away from Mint State. The eye appeal is very good for an AU piece, suggesting that this is worthy of special attention from anyone desiring such a piece for type or as a key date.

HALF EAGLES

One of the most important offerings of early Heraldic Reverse half eagles to ever cross the auction block is about to unfold courtesy of the *Greenwood Collection*. This incredible offering is practically "knee-deep" in great rarities, condition-wise as well as by rarity and desirability. A pair of 1795 Small Eagle pieces, the first U.S. gold coins struck, is front and center, one of which is Mint State, the other choice AU. Seven 1798 half eagles are represented, of which six are different Breen varieties! Four 1799s are featured, with three different varieties present, while a pair of different 1800 varieties is also offered. Next up are 1802/1 and 1803/2 (two different varieties), followed by 1804 (four varieties), 1805, 1806 (two varieties), while multiple 1807s of both design types make an appearance. Multiple half eagles of 1808/7, 1810, 1811, and 1812 complete the offering of the Capped Bust Left design type. The rare and desirable Capped Head Left type is next, with 1813, 1814/3, 1818 STATESOF, and 1820 offered here for your bidding enjoyment, all rare and exciting, and all in grades that will beckon to one and all! Liberty half eagles are out in force, led by a Mint State 1839-C. Other scarce to rare Liberty $5s from all the branch mints are included, with a lovely Proof-64 Deep Cameo 1873 Close 3 rarity a highlight that will shine brightly. Indian half eagles begin with a gem Sand Blast Proof-66 1908 and move quickly on to a Satin Proof-66 1909, a choice AU-55 example of the 1909-O issue, the key to the series and the final issue from the New Orleans Mint. A Sandblast Proof-66 1911 is followed by several scarce to rare branch mint issues, all impressive by virtue of their quality and desirability.

Mint State 1795 Half Eagle

Small Eagle Reverse, B 1-A



(2x photo)

899 1795 Breen 1-A. Rarity-5. Small Eagle. MS-62 (NGC). A lovely example of the very first die variety in the Breen listing of America's very first gold coin. In late summer 1795 the Mint produced the first coins in this metal, half eagles, and, who knows, this may have been among the initial batch! For type set purposes the coin is of commanding importance.

The obverse and reverse are both quite well struck, not needle sharp in all details, but significantly above average, and without die adjustment marks. The specimen is a treat to the trained numismatist's eye, attractive, desirable, and rare.

Although the Mint Act of April 2, 1792 authorized the production of gold coins, pieces were not struck in precious metals (silver and gold) until surety bonds could be obtained for certain officials. This was not accomplished until 1794, at which time half dollars and dollars were minted, followed by the first gold half eagles in the summer of 1795, soon thereafter by $10 eagles. It was not until 1796 that the quarter eagle made its debut.

The obverse shows Miss Liberty with what we like to call a *conical cap,* easily identifiable. The reverse depicts an eagle perched on a palm branch, holding a laurel leaf, said to have been taken from an ancient cameo—a nice motif which today stands as one of the most attractive in the early series.

Over a long period of time half eagles of this date have formed a special focus of attention for a number of numismatists, possibly the earliest being J. Colvin Randall, a Philadelphia dealer, investor, and collector, who was particularly active in the 1870s and 1880s. He compiled a list of obverse and reverse die varieties which was used in a few scattered catalogues, but, to our knowledge was never published as a separate monograph. Later, William H. Woodin and Edgar H. Adams were among those studying the issue, not to overlook the superb scholarship of Harry W. Bass, Jr., and the efforts of others, among whom can be mentioned Robert Miller (who wrote a book on the denomination).

There were so many obverse and reverse dies made of 1795 that they seem to have served as a stock in trade at the Mint for years afterward, as evidenced by the use of one obverse die as late as the calendar year 1898 (in combination with an anachronistic Heraldic Eagle reverse).

Attractive 1795 Half Eagle
Small Eagle Reverse



900 1795 Breen 1-B. Rarity-5. Small Eagle. AU-55 (NGC). A rather atypical example of an early half eagle, offering a great deal of rich coppery red toning that has been long removed from so many pieces seen. The higher points are a warm yellow gold creating a pleasant visual effect in combination with traces of mint lustre that remain in the protected devices. Nicely struck, though with typical softness at the eagle's breast feathers, however most of these feathers are visible, if not completely defined. A small planchet void is noted in the obverse field before star 13, as made, which will serve to easily identify this example in the future. A small dig is noted on the reverse adjacent to the D in UNITED, but the visual effect of this is somewhat diminished by the toning. A very pleasing example of the first half eagle type—an issue that is highly prized today.

Lovely 1798 B 1-B Half Eagle



901 1798 Breen 1-B. Rarity-4+. EF-40 (PCGS). A lovely specimen in light yellow gold. Much lustre remains. Some deeper yellow toning is present on the highest points, lending a pleasing aesthetic appeal, and a scattered minor hairline is present. The striking is quite good on both sides, yielding an example that would be difficult to surpass at this grade level.

On the obverse a prominent raised ridge, as typically seen on this variety, extends from below stars 1–2, continuing to the right beneath the first three date digits, through the bottom of the 8, ending below the bust. This seems to have been a scribe line of some sort, quite unusual. The die is lightly cracked from the rim through the two highest points of star 1, dividing in the field, with one branch going upward and the other ending in the curl to the right. Another crack extends from the rim through the conical cap to near the center of the coin. On the reverse there are several cracks, most notably from the rim through the second S (STATES) to the eagle's head, with a related crack extending from the eagle's neck left through the top of the wing to the border. Another crack is seen from the lower right of the shield through the end of the olive branch to the border, and yet another, quite delicate, can be seen at the left extending from the third feather to a dentil. A very light crack is seen from the lower part of the eagle's feathers to the right, through the top of the branch, through the right side of R (AMERICA), to the border. *Shattered die* is probably an appropriate description of the reverse. The Bass Core Collection coin shows a nearly identical die state.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Attractive 1798 Heraldic Eagle $5
14 Reverse Stars



(2x photo)

902 1798 Breen 2-C. Rarity-6. 14 Reverse Stars. EF-45 (PCGS). An attractive early half eagle, light yellow gold, and without planchet flaws. Good lustre remains. The variety is somewhat scarce in all grades. On the reverse several radial cracks are seen, evidence of a die that could also be called *shattered,* but which had not fallen apart. One particularly prominent crack goes through F (OF) downward through the ribbon, the right part of the shield, exits to the lower right, crosses the branch, goes through the right tip of the final A (AMERICA), and ends at a dentil, in essence dividing this section of the die. However, within that section there is another break, extending more or less horizontally through the top leaves of the branch, through E, to a dentil. A network of other cracks begins at the shield, extending to the lower left to the border, and to the upper left. This die state is far more advanced than the Norweb-Bass Core Collection coin. This variety, with 14 reverse stars, is a much sought after rarity, one that is listed in the *Guide Book* despite a total population of only a few dozen pieces in all grades. None have been graded Mint State by PCGS.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Lustrous 1798 B 2-D $5 Gold



(2x photo)

903 **1798 Breen 2-D. Rarity-3. AU-53 (PCGS).** Brilliant, well struck, and highly lustrous, this half eagle, although graded AU-53, is fully as nice as some we have seen graded as AU-58 or even MS-60. The coin possesses nearly all of its mint frost, is well struck at some of the central areas except at the centers, and has a great deal of "sparkle." As such it will serve nicely to illustrate the type or variety. The reverse die shows multiple cracks, particularly evident at a cluster at and below TE (UNITED) and prominent scattered breaks and cuds at TATES O. Among half eagles of this era, the reverse dies seem to have held up less well than the obverse, and quite a few varieties show multiple cracks, although usually not as extensive as here. This variety is unknown without these cracks, suggesting they occurred during the manufacture of the die. The quality of this piece compares favorably to any other we have seen.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Pleasing 1798 B 3-E Half Eagle

Rare Variety



(2x photo)

904 **1798 Breen 3-E. Rarity-5+. AU-50 (PCGS).** A very pleasing example of this scarce variety, well struck in light yellow gold. Indeed, the striking is exceptional for any $5 piece of this era. While it is not needle sharp, the vast majority of details are nicely defined. In keeping with other half eagles of the Greenwood Collection the quality is all there. A long die crack, from the back of Liberty's head towards star 7, is faint on the present specimen. A pleasing example of this elusive variety.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Choice 1798 B 4-F Half Eagle



(2x photo)

905 1798 Breen 4-F. Rarity-3. AU-50 (PCGS). Another attractive early half eagle, this specimen is in light yellow gold on a problem-free planchet, and is a treat to the eye. The surfaces are lightly reflective and the visual appeal is superb, though we note a tiny rim bruise just left of 6:00 on the reverse. The striking is somewhat light at the centers, as usual. On the reverse a delicate crack is seen from the rim past the left of O (OF) through the cloud, down to the upper right of the shield, a much earlier state than the primary Bass coin, which also shows a notable obverse crack from B of LIBERTY to star 13.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Scarce 1798 Half Eagle

B 6-H, High Rarity-5



(2x photo)

906 1798 Breen 6-H. Rarity-5+. Net EF-40; sharpness of AU-50, or perhaps a little finer but brushed on both sides with the obverse being most heavily affected. Still, the surfaces are a pleasing medium yellow gold. Traces of lustre remain on the obverse, while the reverse shows evidence of light prooflike reflectivity. Minor striking softness is seen on the eagle's neck feathers, but the horizontal shield crossbars are nearly all complete, and the wing feathers are full and sharp. While somewhat imperfect from past mishandling, the piece retains much desirability as a scarcer variety with sharp detail and decent eye appeal, all things considered.

Another 1798 B 6-H $5



907 1798 Breen 6-H. Rarity-5+. VF-25 (PCGS). A well-worn specimen, designated as VF-25, this piece retains good eye appeal and is a worthwhile consideration at that level. Obverse and reverse are light yellow gold. The piece seems to have been cleaned long ago, giving it somewhat prooflike surfaces. Right above the hair curl below B of LIBERTY there is a tiny dig or depression. On the reverse a crack is seen past the final S (STATES). A rare variety, and probably the last 1798-dated die marriage struck. The reverse was also used in 1799.

From the Greenwood Collection.

1799 B 1-A Half Eagle



908 **1799 Breen 1-A. Rarity-5. Net EF-40 (ANACS).** "AU detail." An item for the budget-conscious buyer, this coin is quite sharp, but was lightly polished some time ago, giving it a net grade of EF-40, plus, although not clearly visible in the holder, with "rims damaged-cleaned," per the ANACS evaluation. We recommend in-person inspection of this coin prior to bidding, as there are a number of variables. The visual appeal still renders this a collectible coin.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Elusive 1799 B 3-F Half Eagle



909 **1799 Breen 3-F. Rarity-6. EF-40 (PCGS).** Medium yellow gold. On a problem-free planchet (without adjustment marks), this being a general rule for pieces from the Greenwood Collection. A nice example of the date, variety, and grade, a coin with superb color and excellent lustre for the grade.

On the reverse some clash marks from the obverse are seen, most notably in the galaxy of stars above the eagle's head. The final digit in the date is plainly recut.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Very Rare 1799 B 4-H Half Eagle



(2x photo)

910 **1799 Breen 4-H. Rarity-6+. AU-55 (PCGS).** An attractive example of this uncommon variety. Fairly well struck and of nice appearance overall. Light yellow gold with hints of deeper toning here and there. Some cloudiness at TE (UNITED). Held at an angle to the light, both sides are slightly prooflike. Scattered tiny planchet chips, as struck, are noted on the obverse. This piece is notably sharper than the primary Bass coin, retained by the Bass Foundation and is roughly equivalent to the John A. Beck-Harry Bass coin sold in 1999. The present offering gives the unusual opportunity of contemplating a collection of half eagles by die varieties, particularly of the years commencing with 1798, an opportunity not often presented.

From the Greenwood Collection.



911 **1799 Breen 4-H. Rarity-6+. Net EF-40;** AU-50 or so for sharpness, but close inspection reveals that the fields have been lightly abraded with tiny contact marks. However, the aesthetic appeal is not too severely diminished and the color is a medium yellow gold. The reverse field areas that are not rough are nicely lustrous, while the protected areas around the obverse are sharply prooflike. A more affordable example of this rarer variety.

Lustrous 1800 B 1-C $5



912 **1800 Breen 1-C. Rarity-4. AU-53 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold surfaces with much lustre still present. A very tiny rim bruise is seen at the right border above TY. The reverse is bright and lustrous, with all the character of a Mint State coin if graded separately. Both obverse and reverse are fairly well struck, some lightness at the higher points, but otherwise well defined, better than average. On the reverse some clash marks can be seen, particularly in the stars above the eagle's head and to the lower right of the shield. A richly appealing coin, ideal for a well-formed type set that focuses on originality.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Appealing 1800 B 1-D Half Eagle



913 **1800 Breen 1-D. Rarity-4. EF-45 (PCGS).** Light yellow gold. Significantly above average strike. A nice example of the date, variety, and grade. A few marks are seen here and there, most notably in the field near star 7 and on the reverse far to the right of the eagle's head. Such go with the territory and are factored in as part of the numerical grade.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Prooflike 1802/1 Half Eagle



(2x photo)

914 **1802/1 Breen 1-A. Rarity-7 to 8. AU-58 (NGC).** An attractive example, prooflike in the protected areas, indicating that when first struck the piece must have been simply spectacular to view. On the reverse among the stars are some planchet adjustment marks. The overall striking is quite good, and the general appearance is likewise.

Nearly Mint State 1803/2 Half Eagle
B 1-B



(2x photo)

915 **1803/2 Breen 1-B. Rarity-5. AU-58 (PCGS).** This half eagle is about as close as it can be to Mint State without actually being there. Struck in light yellow gold, and retaining much lustre, and on a defect-free planchet, this is truly a handsome example of this well-known overdate. The undertype 2 is very bold beneath the 3, no magnification needed. On the reverse a crack extends from the border at the right side of U (UNITED) upward through the eagle's beak, exiting through the E (STATES) to the rim. A splendid coin worthy of a strong bid.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Another 1803/2 Half Eagle

Variety B 1-D



916 **1803/2 B 1-D. Rarity-4. AU-53 (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, and quite prooflike, this specimen is one of the nicest that could possibly be found of its grade. The fields are bright, but some highly attractive orange toning may be seen on devices and at reverse periphery. The obverse die is the overdate, as preceding, but in a slightly later use. The die has been relapped and polished, giving the aforementioned prooflike surface, but also removing some of the details of the undertype 2, although the earlier digit is still bold in most places. The reverse is from a different die, thereby defining the variety. Reverse dies of this general type usually have one or several cracks, and this is no exception. A delicate crack seems to bisect the reverse, although the continuous thread cannot be followed. It commences at the upper left, runs along the top edge of the feather, down through the shield, exiting to the right through E (AMERICA).

From the Greenwood Collection. Earlier from Superior's sale of February 1993, Lot 1344.

Choice 1804 B 1-B Half Eagle

Small 8 Over Large 8



(2x photo)

917 **1804 Breen 1-B. Rarity-5+. AU-55 (PCGS).** A choice specimen, above average in strike, and very handsome in its appearance. The fields are lightly reflective and show rich lustre, making a dramatic visual impression. A short batch of adjustment marks are visual at the horizontally striped portion of the shield reverse, and some are barely visible at the arrow talon as well.

On the obverse a large numeral 8 was first punched, then a significantly smaller 8 punched afterward. An earlier 1 was also punched, and there are traces of an earlier 0. Apparently the engraver had quite a problem when putting the date on this die! All of this is visible under low magnification. The reverse is highly unusual in that it has *two* bisecting cracks from top to bottom, a feature with few counterparts anywhere else in American coinage. The leftmost begins at the border, continues down through the right tip of A (STATES) through the left side of the shield, the group of arrows, and exits through the left side of U (UNITED). The crack on the right side begins at the border, goes through O (OF), down through the ride side of the shield, exiting at the final A (AMERICA). Again, this is interesting to examine under magnification.

From the Greenwood Collection. Earlier from Superior's Century Collection Sale, February 1992, Lot 2619.

Splendid 1804 B 2-C Half Eagle



(2x photo)

918 **1804 Breen 2-C. Rarity-5. AU-55 (PCGS).** A splendid example, superbly struck, with magnificent detail, much lustre, and thoroughly desirable. One of the nicest half eagles we have ever seen at the AU-55 level. Take heed when bidding!

Both obverse and reverse dies are from an early state. The reverse shows vertical die striae indicating it must have been among the first impressions, as these finish lines typically wore away quickly.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Lustrous 1804 B 2-E $5 Gold



(2x photo)

919 1804 Breen 2-E. Rarity-5. AU-53 (PCGS). A very lustrous example, quite close to Mint State, but designated as just AU-53. Extremely well struck, one of the finest in the Greenwood Collection. A handsome specimen deserving of close attention and an appropriate following bid.

On the obverse a die crack extends from the border through the O, into the hair. The reverse is a die with a crack from the upper left, to the top of the eagle's wing, shield, exiting through E (AMERICA). At the first T (STATES) there is a small patch of detritus. (This is the same as Breen's reverse D die of 1803/2).

From the Greenwood Collection.

Attractive 1804 B 3-E Half Eagle



(2x photo)

920 1804 Breen 3-E. Rarity-5. AU-58 (NGC). An attractive example in warm orange-yellow gold. Another coin for the specialist to contemplate.

The obverse die is bisected by a crack from the border through L (LIBERTY), through the hair, exiting through the 8 of the date to the border, while another crack extends from the border through a star to lips of Miss Liberty. On the reverse a bisecting crack extends from the left, across the top of the eagle's wing, the shield, the tip of an olive leaf, through E (AMERICA) to the border.

Lovely AU 1804 B 3-E Half Eagle



921 1804 Breen 3-E. Rarity-5. AU-50 (PCGS). Light yellow gold, a nice match for nearly all others in the Greenwood Collection. Struck on a problem-free planchet. The details are quite good, better than typically seen on half eagles of the type. Some light hairlines are visible, but abundant frost remains and the visual appeal is truly excellent.

On the obverse the 4 is dramatically double punched, with parts of the lower 4 still visible. A crack extends from a dentil through the 8 into the hair, going upward to the curl crossing the cap. Another crack extends from the right border through the second star past Y (LIBERTY) to Miss Liberty's mouth. On the reverse there is evidence of die rust at the center, probably from the summer humidity in Philadelphia. A crack bisects the die, irregularly, from the left, along the top of the eagle's wing, through the shield, exiting through the E (AMERICA)

From the Greenwood Collection.

Especially Attractive 1805 $5

Breen 2-B, Mint State



(2x photo)

922 **1805 Breen 2-B. Rarity-5. MS-62 (PCGS).** An especially attractive example, this piece is bright yellow gold, somewhat prooflike, and is very easy on the eyes. Not many offer this quality.

To be a bit more precise, the obverse is quite well struck at the center, ditto for the dentils and other areas, except for some trivial lightness at the center star points (not that anyone would notice). Some light adjustment marks can be seen, mostly hidden in the hair. The surfaces are somewhat prooflike. The reverse is also partially prooflike. The striking is far above average, with lightness noted only to the left of the shield and at the eagle's claw at the lower left, again not that anyone would notice. Under magnification, when the coin is held at a certain angle to the light, there will be seen a slight clash mark outlining the face of Miss Liberty, this being visible above the olive branch and below the eagle's wing. The scenario was probably that the dies came together, were lightly clashed, and then were relapped or redressed to remove most of the notice of this clash, thereby imparting a prooflike surface.

This lovely 1805 half eagle will nicely answer the call for a really choice coin for a type set or a variety for the specialist.

Lustrous AU 1805 B 2-B Half Eagle



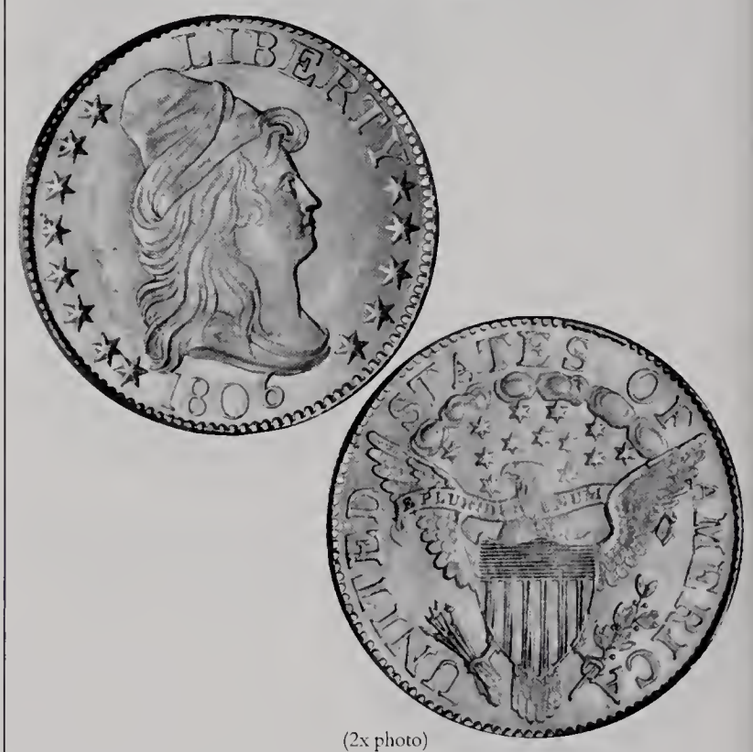
923 **1805 Breen 2-B. Rarity-5+. AU-53 (PCGS).** Lustrous and of significantly above average strike, this is another choice AU coin from the Greenwood Collection, nicer than typically seen for the grade. On the obverse some barely discernible adjustment marks are hidden in the hair. A few short scratches are noted in the field at the upper right beneath R of LIBERTY. These have been taken into consideration during the grading process. The reverse is deeply and richly lustrous. Upon close examination some clash marks are seen to the left and right of the eagle's tale, the result of the dies coming together without an intervening planchet. This obverse die always shows a raised die chip inside star 6.

From the Greenwood Collection. Earlier from Heritage's sale of February 1994, Lot 5237.

High-Grade 1806 B 1-A $5 Gold

Choice Mint State

None Finer Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

924 **1806 Breen 1-A. Rarity-4+. MS-64 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen of the 1806 Pointed 6 half eagle, as it is called, but perhaps more effectively designated as having eight stars to the left and five to the right. PCGS has graded four at this level, none higher. The present coin is deeply and richly lustrous, fairly well struck, and quite attractive overall. There is some lightness at the centers, scarcely worth mentioning, and on the center of the reverse are seen some mint caused adjustment marks.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer.

As is typically the case for coins of this era, under magnification this specimen reveals many interesting features. In the date, the lower left serif of the 1 is missing. The 6, with pointed top, is far too high, out of line with the other digits, and intrudes into the drapery of Miss Liberty. On the left the stars are very irregularly arranged, with stars 1 and 2 touching, and all others having spaces between them, sometimes generous, sometimes tight. Delicate die cracks are seen around much of the border. On the reverse it is seen that the lower right serif of the T (appearing three times on the die) is missing, not the case with the single T (LIBERTY) on the obverse. The eagle's talons touch the bottom foot of the final A in AMERICA. Such dies were made by hand, and features differ considerably from one to another.

Mint State 1806 Half Eagle
Round Top 6, Stars 7X6



(2x photo)

925 1806 Breen 5-E. Rarity-3. Round 6, 7X6 Stars. MS-62 (NGC). A lovely, lustrous example of this popular variety, this piece shows a lot of "life" and "spirit." The striking is about typical for the variety, with some lightness in areas. However, on the reverse the lightness is at the center and the upper part, including the stars and clouds exhibits superb detail. A nice possibility for the date, major variety, die variety, or type.

It is significant to remember when analyzing certification data that these are by date and major type alone, not by die variety. Accordingly, in almost every instance these coins are rarer as varieties than otherwise suggested.

Lustrous 1806 B 5-E $5 Gold



926 1806 Breen 5-E. Rarity-3. Round 6, 7X6 Stars. AU-50. A lovely specimen retaining much original lustre, particularly in protected spaces, this coin will serve well to illustrate the B 5-E die variety as well as possibly the general design type. The surfaces are rich yellow. The striking is fairly good, some normal lightness here and there. No adjustment marks are seen, a distinct advantage.

"Special" 1806 Half Eagle
Round Top 6, Stars 7X6



927 1806 Breen 5-E. Rarity-3. Round 6, 7X6 Stars. Net VF 20 (ANACS). "AU details." "Special" in the context that this coin has been plugged, repaired, and tooled, and needs some special attention to evaluate its worth. Inspect it in person and make your own decision.

Choice 1807 B 1-B Half Eagle
Condition Census Quality
Last Year of Design



(2x photo)

928 1807 Breen 1-B. Rarity-6. MS-64 (NGC). Another splendid half eagle, this piece exhibits a high degree of prooflike character on obverse and reverse, having been struck from polished dies. Scattered marks are seen here and there, typical of the grade. The striking is quite good, indeed far nicer than usually seen. NGC has certified only five at this grade level with one finer, that MS-65. A highly important half eagle for the specialist.

NGC Census: 5; 1 finer (MS-65).

Incorrectly attributed as Capped Bust on NGC label.

1807 Capped Bust Right $5 Gold



929 **1807 Breen 1-B. Rarity-6. AU-53 (PCGS).** A nice example at the AU-53 level of this scarce die variety. Light yellow gold with orange and hints of deeper toning. Choice planchet. A few scattered marks are typical of the grade, but the lustre seen here is frostier than usually seen at this numerical level. A curved die crack above E in LIBERTY is noted; in a later state, the crack becomes a full cud, as on the Eliasberg coin.

From the Greenwood Collection.

1807 Capped Bust Right $5 Gold

B 2-B, Rarity-6

Lustrous Mint State



(2x photo)

930 **1807 Breen 2-B. Rarity-6. MS-62 (PCGS).** A splendid Mint State specimen of the last year of the Capped Bust to right type with Heraldic Eagle reverse, this will be ideal for either a type set or specialized collection. The striking is fairly good, with some normal lightness at the center. Both obverse and reverse are highly lustrous with satiny yellow gold surfaces.

On the obverse there is a tiny lint mark from the right side of the drapery to the border. On the reverse a crack is seen at the left side of the shield, extending to the group of arrows.

Harry Bass only ever found one specimen of this rare variety, the DiBello coin which showed a slightly sharper strike but was probably not technically superior. The Breen 2-B die pair may be the most challenging of this date for advanced collectors to locate.

From the Greenwood Collection.

1807 Capped Bust Right $5 Gold

B 2-C



931 **1807 Breen 2-C. Rarity-5+. AU-55 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous. Somewhat lightly struck at the centers, this being typical. The overall quality is above average with the lustre being rich and deep, particularly on the reverse. Some very subtle diagonal adjustment marks are visible at central reverse. A pleasing example of a challenging issue.

From the Greenwood Collection.

Lustrous 1807 Capped Bust $5



(2x photo)

932 **1807 Breen 5-D. Rarity-3. Capped Bust. MS-64 (NGC).** A richly lustrous and very attractive example of the first year of John Reich's Capped Bust design, a motif that was used only through 1812 before modification. The obverse possesses a needle-sharp strike, including the hair, the star centers, and dentils, a virtual *definition* of this design, while the reverse is equally remarkable. The lustre is satiny and beautiful, and the color is light gold. All told this is one of the nicest 1807 half eagles we have ever seen. For the type set enthusiast this will be a special acquisition.

John Reich, a German immigrant, did contract work for the Mint in the early 19th century, and in 1807 was signed as an assistant on the staff. He worked for a decade under Chief Engraver Robert Scot, creating new motifs including the Capped Bust motif as here and also what used to be called the *Turban Head*, but which is now called the *Classic Head* cent of 1808 (a motif picked up for the half cent of 1809 and, years later, copied for use on the quarter eagle and half eagle of 1834).

Reich was a talented engraver, with some of his best art appearing on medals of the era, studied separately by Robert W. Julian in his specialized text. Although he was not the chief engraver, today Reich is far better remembered than his boss, Scot, with the John Reich Collectors Society bearing his name.

Choice Mint State 1807 $5
First Year, Capped Bust Left



(2x photo)

933 **1807 Breen 5-D. Rarity-3. MS-63 (PCGS).** What a lovely coin this is! Both the obverse and reverse have rich satiny frost, excellent striking details *everywhere,* and no adjustment marks. For anyone seeking a nice example for a type set, to illustrate the first year of John Reich's Capped Bust left, the present piece enticingly beckons, "buy me!"

Lustrous 1807 Capped Bust $5
MS-63



(2x photo)

934 **1807 Breen 5-D. Rarity-3. MS-63 (NGC).** A lustrous, attractive example with an exquisite strike and lovely light lustrous surfaces. Few early half eagles of any date or variety are this attractive. This will attract the attention of more than just a few type set specialists.

1807 EF Half Eagle



935 **1807 Breen 5-D. Rarity-3. Capped Bust. EF-45, sharpness of AU-50.** A nicely struck and generally fine appearing coin. Some brush lines on it from a cleaning some time ago, these mainly visible under magnification. Warm yellow gold surfaces.

Rare 1807 Breen 5-E Half Eagle



936 **1807 Breen 5-E. Rarity-6. AU-53 (NGC).** Warm yellow gold. A nice example of a lightly circulated half eagle.

On the obverse some planchet adjustment marks are seen near the left edge. On the reverse a die crack descends from E (STATES) to the eagle's head, continuing into the shield.

Lustrous 1808/7 Half Eagle

Breen 2-A, MS-63



(2x photo)

937 **1808/7 Breen 2-A. Rarity-5. MS-63 (NGC).** A lovely, lustrous specimen of this popular overdate. Second year of John Reich's Capped Bust left design. Well struck in all areas with nice mint frost. A choice piece that will be perfect for either an advanced type set or specialized collection.

Choice Mint State 1810 $5



(2x photo)

938 **1810 Breen 1-A. Rarity-2. MS-64 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen with rich lustrous surfaces, warm yellow gold with splashes of orange. Fairly well struck. Some lightness at the centers as expected, but scarcely worthy of mention. A lovely piece that has a great deal of warmth and personality. Not a rare variety, but certainly not easy to find in this combination of high grade and eye appeal.

Pleasing AU 1810 $5



939 **1810 Breen 2-D. Rarity-5. AU-53 (NGC).** Moderate wear on both sides, not as lustrous as most half eagles graded as AU-53 by NGC, but it is what it is. Traces of orange-yellow gold. A problem-free planchet.

Choice Mint State 1811 $5
Breen 1-A, Tall 5



(2x photo)

940 **1811 Breen 1-A. Rarity-4. MS-63 (PCGS).** A choice Mint State specimen, among the finest graded of this popular variety. Well struck on obverse and reverse with rich lustre and good eye appeal, this piece invites your bid. The quality is all there.

PCGS Population: 17; 8 finer (MS-66 finest).

Under magnification it can be seen that the dies have clashed, the evidence of which is most prominent on the obverse above the date where part of the motto can be seen raised, transferring from the incuse on the reverse, where the outline of the portrait may be discerned.

Choice 1811 Half Eagle
None Finer Graded by PCGS



(2x photo)

941 **1811 Breen 1-B. Rarity-3+. MS-64 (PCGS).** A high condition example, with none finer graded by PCGS, and an unknown quantity at the same level (the 10 submissions likely represent fewer *different* coins). Extremely well struck, in fact *definitive* in this regard, highly lustrous, and very desirable. An exceptional example from the standpoint of striking, lustre, and eye appeal. As such this is not an ordinary MS-64 but is *special.*

PCGS Population: 10; none finer.

Lustrous 1812 Half Eagle
Condition Census



(2x photo)

942 **1812 Breen 1-A. Rarity-4. MS-64 (PCGS).** A high level PCGS coin, Condition Census with a number of companions in the MS-64 category. Just six are graded finer. The striking is excellent on the obverse and reverse, the lustre is deep and rich, and the eye appeal would be difficult to exceed. All told this piece brings together many desirable aspects, creating a piece that is deserving of strong bidding attention.

Choice 1812 Half Eagle

Lustrous Mint State



(2x photo)

943 **1812 Breen 1-B. Rarity-3. MS-64 (PCGS).** *Eye appeal* is probably the briefest and most effective description one can give of this coin. Beautiful yellow-orange, fairly decent strike (more on this later), and rich lustre combine to create a very appealing specimen. One glance at it during the lot viewing process will tell all.

The obverse has superb striking definition, including the hair, star centers, and dentils. The reverse is well struck, but has some microscopic parallel *planchet stria* (opinion here) at the left part of the motto, not that anyone would notice. Here is a coin the type set collector will appreciate, as will the variety collector creating a wide audience.

Mint State 1813 Half Eagle

B 1-A, Choice and Lustrous



(2x photo)

944 **1813 Breen 1-A. Rarity-3. MS-63 (PCGS).** A splendid specimen, this 1813 has it all—sharp strike, deep rich lustre, and attractive appearance. Well, almost all. There are some scattered marks here and there, taken care of by the grade, and a toning area within the 5 of the denomination. Within the MS-63 category few measure up to the eye appeal here presented.

From the Ashland City Collection.

Beautiful 1814/3 Half Eagle
Choice Mint State



(2x photo)

945 **1814/3 Breen 1-A. Rarity-4. MS-64 (NGC).** A beautiful example of this overdate, well struck, and with deep rich lustre on both sides. The coin bespeaks *quality* from every angle.

The obverse is the overdate variety, as always for this year (no perfect die exists). Some clash marks are seen here and there, particularly behind the head to the right and through the tops of the letters. A delicate crack is seen through the base of the last two digits, extending to the right. On the reverse there are some clash marks from the obverse. A light crack is seen through TES (STATES).

NGC Census: 8; none finer.

Rare 1818 B 2-B Half Eagle
STATESOF Variety



(2x photo)

946 **1818 Breen 2-B. Rarity-4. MS-62 (NGC).** A splendid specimen, somewhat prooflike on the obverse, of the famous variety with STATESOF run together as a single word on the reverse. Lustrous orange gold surfaces. Elusive in all grades.

Mint State 1820 $5 Rarity
Square Base 2, Large Letters



(2x photo)

947 **1820 Breen 1-A. Rarity-5. MS-63 (PCGS).** Although recognized as a rarity, the 1820 is just about the only date in this decade that is collectible, and this not easily! The present coin is one of number of different die combinations, an interesting study in themselves. Both obverse and reverse are superbly struck, lustrous, and somewhat prooflike. The eye appeal is excellent.

The obverse die is characterized at a glance by a group of merged dentils at the border between stars 9 and 10. The digit 2 has a flat or square base. On the reverse the letters are large and somewhat irregularly spaced, this being nowhere more evident than in STATES, where the A is too far to the right. These and other dies were cut by hand, with the letters punched in individually, yielding characteristics that are interesting to view.

For the study and appreciate of this and other early half eagles, we highly recommend acquiring a copy of Dave Bowers' book *The Harry W. Bass, Jr. Museum Sylloge*, prepared for the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Foundation. This study delves into all early gold coins, 1795-1834, is color illustrated, and presents much information not readily available from any other single source.

Beautiful Mint State 1839-C $5



(2x photo)

948 **1839-C MS-62 (NGC).** Bright and lustrous. Some friction in the fields, but much lustre still remains. About typical strike for the 1839-C, some lightness at the center and certain star points, but fairly well defined overall. The present piece is quite handsome. The C mintmark was used above the date only in this year in the Liberty Head series, making the variety (and its Dahlonega Mint counterpart) very popular.

NGC Census: 7; 1 finer (MS-63).

Sharp 1842-D Half Eagle

Small Date



949 **1842-D Small Date. Net EF-40;** sharpness of AU-50 or perhaps a little finer but both sides have been brushed. Very sharply struck with excellent definition of the star centers and hair curls, while the feathers of the eagle show minimal softness though all are clearly defined. This issue is one of the finer products of the Dahlonega Mint where conditions resulted in many of its coins having a rather crude appearance when compared to Philadelphia Mint counterparts.

Desirable 1847/7 Half Eagle



950 **1847/7 AU-55 (PCGS).** Rich coppery orange toning over warm yellow gold surfaces. The devices are somewhat satiny while the fields show considerable prooflike qualities due to the dies having been harshly polished as part of their regular maintenance. Careful study reveals the clearly defined top of an erroneously placed digit 7 visible just above the dentils to the lower left of the final position of the digit.

Lustrous 1852-D Half Eagle



(2x photo)

951 **1852-D AU-58 (NGC).** Bright yellow gold. An attractive example, lustrous, and with superb eye appeal. The obverse and reverse fields are deeply basined, this being done in the machine shop at the Dahlonega Mint, giving the obverse (in particular) a distinctive appearance from that seen on Philadelphia coins. Under magnification some interesting die characteristics can be seen as well.

Among Dahlonega half eagles of this date this is certainly a beautiful example. and as such we expect it to create quite a bit of interest.

1852-D Half Eagle



952 **1852-D Net EF-45;** sharpness of AU-55 but cleaned, leaving the greenish yellow gold unnaturally bright. However, the surfaces display only minimal marks, fairly typical for the grade, and the overall eye appeal decent all things considered. Mild softness is noted in the strike most evident in the eagle's neck feathers, leg feathers, and arrow feathers.



953 **1854-O AU-55 (NGC).** Medium yellow gold with some lustre remaining. Some striking weakness is evident in the central details as typical, but not to a distracting degree.

Attractive AU 1855-C $5
Likely Fort Capron Treasure



954 1855-C AU-50 (ICG). A splendid example, this piece is likely from the Fort Capron treasure, discussed in our sale a year ago of the Thomas Sebring Collection, notes of which are reiterated below. Likely at the time of immersion this piece was Mint State. Today it has attractive surfaces, with some slight matte effect due to seawater. Rare and desirable.

In 1857, in the middle of continuous hostilities between federal troops and the native Seminole tribes, Major Jeremiah Yellot Dashiell left Charleston, South Carolina with $23,000 in his possession, entrusted to him as payment to federal troops stationed at Fort Capron, an outpost near modern Fort Pierce, Florida. Dashiell found transport on the *William and Mary,* and from that large vessel took a smaller boat to the shore—but he ran into a tiny problem: the large sum of cash which he was charged with protecting as an Army paymaster was spilled from the boat when it was tipped over in the surf, and it was not recovered in the soft sand below. Congress released Dashiell from fault the next year, despite the fact that within a month the major portion of another payroll was stolen from him when he left it unattended in a hotel room! The latter negligence did cost Dashiell his job by executive order of President Buchanan.

The Fort Capron payroll was finally found over a century later, in 1963, when the coins were discovered scattered across the limestone deposits under the sand of what was once an environmental feature called the Indian River Inlet. According to a state inventory of coins located, 582 gold coins were found, fairly equally divided between $20, $5, $2.50 and $1 gold pieces, with a smaller number of $10 eagles. Over 200 silver coins were also recovered in badly corroded condition. In a later court action, the amateur divers who found the treasure admitted to recovering more than 3,000 gold coins and never reporting them to the state, meaning that the vast majority of coins found were sold into numismatic channels without a word of where they were recovered—thus losing this fascinating historical provenance. Many of the coins were scarce issues of Charlotte, Dahlonega, New Orleans, and San Francisco—the dates on the double eagles ranged from 1850 to 1856 and included coins from Philadelphia, New Orleans, and San Francisco.

From Superior's August 2002 sale, Lot 2008.

High-Grade 1858-S $5
Sharp and Lustrous



(2x photo)

955 1858-S AU-58 (NGC). A splendid example of the 1858-S, the present piece is Condition Census for NGC, with none graded higher. The coin is sharply struck, highly lustrous and very attractive—a splendid specimen that will no doubt attract the advanced buyer. Few exist at this grade and, significantly, the *Guide Book* does not price the issue at any Mint State level.

NGC Census: 6; none finer.

High-Grade 1860 $5



956 1860 AU-55 (PCGS). A high-grade example of an issue which is usually seen well worn. Intense orange-gold surfaces with some areas of magenta. Scarce at higher levels as such as this.

PCGS Population: 8; 6 finer (MS-62 finest).

1864-S Half Eagle Rarity



(2x photo)

957 1864-S Net EF-45; AU details (ANACS). The present coin, graded by ANACS, is a very nice example of its kind. However, at one time it was lightly cleaned or brushed. In-person inspection is suggested. However, generations of numismatists were born and died without having technical numbers and detailed explanations such as this. The present piece would have served just fine in nearly any past specialized collection of half eagles by date and mint, probably not with further mention.

Among half eagles of this era the 1864-S is remarkable for its rarity. Just 3,888 were made, far and away the lowest San Francisco mintage of any half eagle after the first year of issue, 1854-S. At the time not even one coin was set aside as a numismatic souvenir or for a collection. Accordingly, finding an example today is a matter of rare chance. The obverse is very attractive in appearance, quickly giving an aspect of boldness, but upon close examination showing some lightness at the three leftmost stars, less so on star 10, and on the high points of the hair, these being characteristic and possibly not deserving of discussion. On the reverse there is some lightness below the shield, also typical. Much mint lustre still survives. For the advanced specialist in half eagles this 1864-S represents one of the nicest to come on the market in our era, a coin that should be examined in person and, afterward, competed for vigorously. It is a truly desirable specimen.

Splendid Proof 1873 Half Eagle
Misplaced Date



(2x photo)

958 1873 Close 3. Proof-64 Deep Cameo (PCGS). A splendid Proof example of the 1873 half eagle, one of just 25 coined. This piece traces its pedigree to the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, Part IV, November 2000, Lot 516, there described:

> Intense orange-gold on satiny devices, deeper olive-gold mirror fields. An impressive cameo half eagle. A prized rarity, one of 25 Proofs of the date struck. All Proofs of the date are of the Close 3 variety. Of the 25 pieces said to have been struck, about nine to 12 can be traced today. Again we have an outstanding combination of aesthetic appeal, high numerical grade, and absolute rarity—coming together in a way that characterizes the Bass Collection offerings in so many instances.

This piece is as desirable as ever. If you missed the Bass opportunity, here is another chance. After this it may disappear for a long time.

With regard to misplaced dates, of which dozens have been discovered among 19th-century dies, these typically show traces of the top parts of one or two numerals, mostly hidden in the dentils, and below the position where the date was finally punched. The current (subject to change) theory of the writer is that this involved a test tap of the logotype punch to determine the hardness of the steel die, preparatory to entering the punch in the right location. Presumably, if the punch made no impression at all the die was too hard, and would be softened by annealing. If the die made a light impression, as here (just the top of the 7 is visible), then it was satisfactory for the date logotype to be entered deeply in the correct place.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer within the designation.

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection Part IV, November 2000, Lot 516.

Lustrous 1874 Half Eagle
Condition Census Challenger



959 1874 AU-58 (NGC). At the AU-58 level this 1874 challenges but does not pierce the border of Condition Census. The dies are somewhat prooflike on the obverse and reverse. Circulation marks are extensive, dictating the grade, but overall the appearance is quite nice.

NGC Census: 16; 5 finer (MS-62 finest).

Key 1874-S Half Eagle
Condition Census



(2x photo)

960 1874-S AU-55 (PCGS). A Condition Census example, with few equal or finer in existence, of the highly important 1874-S variety. Although the mintage was not small this year, likely most were exported or melted. Today, very few remain at higher levels.

PCGS Population: 3; 1 finer (AU-58).



961 1884 MS-62 (NGC). Lustrous light yellow gold surfaces.



962 1888-S MS-61 (PCGS). Bright yellow gold, lustrous, and of overall nice appearance, this 1888-S, certainly not expensive, will serve to illustrate the date and mint. The striking is light in a few areas, not unusual for the date and mint. One viewer of the coin suggested that it is "super clean and under graded," the "clean" not meaning the coin has been cleaned, but is free of defects.

963 1888-S AU-58 (NGC). Lustrous gold with some splashes of orange.

Choice Mint State 1891-CC Half Eagle



(2x photo)

964 **1891-CC MS-64 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen, accompanied by a high grade but beyond that a piece that has *superb quality*. The obverse has exquisite strike, virtually definitive for the design, including hair details, star centers, and dentils. The fields are smooth and satiny. The same can be said for the reverse, sharply struck from top to bottom, from left to right, and richly lustrous, the lustre being of a slightly different nature and more "frosty." Although Mint State 1891-CC half eagles come on the market now and again, only occasionally do they have the superb quality offered by the present piece.



965 **1895 MS-64 (NGC).** A lustrous, frosty, sharply struck and beautiful 1895 half eagle, not rare but certainly a treat to the eye.

966 **1896 MS-63 (NGC).** Sharply struck and with nice lustre. An ideal example at the MS-63 level.

Superb Proof 1901 Half Eagle

Finest NGC Graded



(2x photo)

967 **1901 Proof-67 Ultra Cameo (NGC).** Brilliant with frosty surfaces. Finest graded by NGC in the Proof-67 Ultra Cameo category, with none others in sight. Although 140 Proofs were struck this year, probably no more than a handful can compete with this in quality today, and of those, this is the only one that has found its way to Sarasota, Florida, to be examined by the experts at NGC.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

Gem Sandblast Proof 1908 $5

Among Finest Known



(2x photo)

968 **1908 Indian. Matte Proof-66 (PCGS).** A beautiful specimen, one of the nicest we have seen, of the first year of issue of Bela Lyon Pratt's Indian Head design. This is a Sandblast Proof, correct nomenclature according to what the Mint and numismatists called them until the modern era, terminology that is now coming back into use. The present piece is as handsome as can be and will certainly be a feather in the numismatic cap of its lucky next owner. Ideal for a type set, of course, and also for a specialized cabinet.

Gem Satin Proof 1909 $5

Satin Proof-66



(2x photo)

969 **1909 Satin Proof-66 (NGC).** A splendid satin Proof, sometimes called *Roman Finish Proof,* specimen of the 1909 half eagle—created by a special process which, to our eye, yields a very attractive coin. However, in the era in which these were made they were not particularly popular, as they somewhat resemble gem Mint State coins, especially at quick glance. Accordingly, not many were made, and of those that were produced, many have since been lost. Of the 1909 half eagle just 78 Proofs were struck. We believe that fewer than 50 survive today, and of those not many can compare to this. The value attached to this and other Proofs of the era is such that resubmission has become a popular practice, with the result that certification service data are no indication of how rare the pieces actually are. As has been said in the coin trade, it will not be too long until more coins have been certified than actually exist!

The Satin Finish Proofs of 1909 and 1910 and also the Sandblast Proofs of 1908 and 1912-1915 show the design detail in sharpness not often seen on circulated coins.

970 **1909-D MS-62 (PCGS).** A richly lustrous example of one of the more readily available Mint State half eagles of this design. An ideal candidate for a type set.

Important 1909-O $5



(2x photo)

971 **1909-O AU-55 (NGC).** In high level circulated grades the 1909-O is far and away the rarest of the Indian Head half eagles, simply because the even rarer (in absolute terms) 1929 is normally seen *Mint State.* This is being a bit technical, of course. When seen, the 1909-O is usually a grade or two below that offered here. A nice example at the indicated grade.

Choice 1910 Half Eagle



972 **1910 MS-64 (NGC).** Rich lustre over light orange gold surfaces. Very attractive, the lustre being virtually three-dimensional. Another high quality piece. Isn't it remarkable how many coins in the present catalogue are of connoisseur quality?

973 **1910 MS-62 (PCGS).** Rich orange gold lustre with some hints of blue. Quite attractive.

Superb Sandblast Proof 1911 $5



(2x photo)

974 **1911 Matte Proof-66 (NGC).** A stunningly beautiful Sandblast Proof of the 1911 half eagle, one of the finest in existence. A few stray marks can be seen at the lower right of the reverse and need to be mentioned, but these are probably what keep the designation from being, say, Proof-67 or Proof-68. On the other hand, perhaps they do not need to be mentioned—most cataloguers would not.

Of the 1911 Sandblast half eagles, 139 are listed in the *Guide Book* as having been struck. Quite a few of these have disappeared in the meantime, as today examples are rarities at all Proof levels.

Choice and Rare 1911-D $5



(2x photo)

975 **1911-D MS-64 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous surfaces, deep orange gold, describe this especially high-grade 1911-D. Among half eagles of this design, the 1911-D is a key, the importance of which increases as the grade numbers go up. Relatively few are offered at the MS-64 level.

PCGS Population: 12; 1 finer (MS-65).

Lustrous 1911-D Half Eagle



(2x photo)

976 **1911-D MS-62 (PCGS).** A richly lustrous example of this key issue, this MS-62 coin is highly affordable in comparison to examples classified as MS-63 or MS-64. Although the price difference is significant, the difference in appearance is not so significant and, accordingly, the present piece should be very attractive to many bidders.

Choice 1912 Half Eagle



977 **1912 MS-63 (NGC).** A choice, lustrous specimen with orange gold surfaces. Frosty, attractive, and one of the nicest extant at this level.

Rare Mint State 1912-S $5



978 **1912-S MS-62 (NGC).** A richly lustrous example of the 1912-S half eagle, this piece will qualify nicely for a high-grade specialized set. The certification number does not take it into the Condition Census, but the eye appeal lends a generous measure of desirability, in our opinion, with the result that this piece could nicely fit into a collection with an average grade of, say, MS-63.

Choice Mint State 1913 $5



979 **1913 MS-64 (PCGS).** A choice specimen, deeply and richly lustrous, and quite attractive. A few tiny contact marks are seen on the obverse at the top feather. This piece has eye appeal far exceeding most we have seen certified at this level.

Mint State 1914-S Half Eagle



980 **1914-S MS-62 (PCGS).** A lustrous and pleasing Mint State specimen. High enough grade to be very attractive with much mint frost and yet low enough in the Mint State range to be affordable to the specialist—perhaps an ideal situation.

Mint State 1916-S $5



981 **1916-S MS-63,** or so with a few faint hairlines left behind by a mild cleaning some tine ago. However, these are a minor distraction, and take away only slightly from the overall desirability. The pleasing yellow gold surfaces are remarkably clear of heavier bagmarks, and both sides offer nice mint lustre. A rather nice example of the date regardless of minor shortcomings.

GOLD EAGLES

A nice EF-40 1795 13 Leaves eagle begins this section, followed by three other early eagles before moving to the Liberty eagle series. Highlights among Gobrecht's design type include a marvelous Proof-66 Cameo 1867, one of 50 examples of the date reportedly struck, though today's conventional wisdom suggests that perhaps only 25-30 or so were actually distributed. Next up is another great and prominent rarity, an 1869 eagle in Proof-65 Ultra Cameo, one of just 25 struck. Not yet enough? How about a Proof-64 Deep Cameo 1884 eagle or the Norweb 1898 eagle, now called Proof-68 Ultra Cameo! Proofs of 1899 (two) and 1900 are here as well. Indian eagles include Sandblast Proof-66 examples of the 1912 and 1914 issues, with a smattering of other important Indian eagles filling out the roster!

Impressive 1795 Gold Eagle

First Year of Issue



(2x photo)

982 1795 Taraszka-2, Breen 2-A. Rarity-4. 13 Leaves. EF-40 (ANACS). Every 1795 eagle is impressive and this is no exception. Representing the first year of issue the 1795 was used extensively in commerce, with the result that examples are elusive in all grades today. The present piece seems to have been cleaned on the obverse at one time, although this is not noted on the holder. As opinions of such matters can vary, we invite you to check it out on your own account.

Among basic design types of eagles the 1795–1797 with conical cap (as we like to call it), combined with a small eagle on the reverse is far and away the rarest. As such, the present coin will appeal to many people endeavoring to acquire one of each basic motif.

"Special" 1796 Eagle



(2x photo)

983 1796 T-6, Breen 1-A. Rarity-4. Net VF-20, AU details. (ANACS). A lovely specimen at first glance. Upon closer inspection it is seen to have been skillfully plugged, apparently a small hole was once drilled in the coin near the rim in the space above BE (LIBERTY), making it suitable for suspension on a cord. Both surfaces have been lightly cleaned, specifically noted here, but not impairing overall attractiveness. The striking is quite sharp, indeed remarkable. This coin does require some special consideration when evaluating its worth, which a few minutes spent in personal inspection should accomplish.

From Heritage's November 1999 sale, Lot 6850.

Rare 1797 $10 Eagle

B 2-C, T-12



(2x photo)

984 1797 T-12, Breen 2-C. Rarity-4. Net VF-20, VF details (ANACS). This 1797 eagle did its duty, saw active circulation, and was worn down to the VF level. It also was lightly polished at one time. Along the way some marks and scratches were picked up. That said, we have a significant rarity, but in a lower grade. There is a market for all things that are numismatically elusive, and for the right person who does not want to spend significantly more for a higher grade specimen, this may well fill the bill.

Sharp 1801 Eagle



985 1801 T-24, Breen 1-A. Rarity-5. VF-35, sharpness of EF-45. A fairly sharp strike, but with surface marks and evidence of an early cleaning, this piece invites in-person inspection to determine its value. This is one of many coins in the early American series for which a single assigned number does not relate all of the aspects. The example is in medium yellow gold and quite attractive overall. Eagles of the early style, called "Old Tenor" in financial journals of mid 18th century, are quite scarce as a class.

Elusive 1844 Eagle



986 1844 EF-45. Medium yellow gold surfaces. Marks are seen here and there, including some on the cheek, mostly hidden by other aspects of the surface.

The 1844, with a mintage of just 6,361, is a rarity among issues of this early era. Examples are elusive in any and all grades. During this time the eagle was the largest gold coin of the realm (the double eagle not being created until the 1850s), and financial records show that many of them were exported, particularly to England, where they were melted.

Attractive AU 1852 $10



987 1852 AU-58 (NGC). Light yellow gold. Extensive circulation marks keep this out of the Mint State category, but overall it remains attractive. As is often the case with this design type, the reverse, if graded separately, would be a notch or two higher.

Although AU eagles (and also half eagles) of this era are fairly scarce, those who specialize in collecting them might be scarcer yet! Accordingly, there exists the opportunity to get a generous helping of basic scarcity and rarity for a relatively low price

Scarce 1855-O Eagle



988 **1855-O AU-53 (NGC).** Light yellow gold. Much lustre remains in protected areas. An attractive example of one of the more elusive half eagles of this era, a piece that the specialist will want to consider carefully.

Prooflike 1855-O Eagle



989 **1855-O AU-50 (PCGS).** A lovely specimen in bright yellow gold, highly prooflike. A key issue in the series, the 1855-O is not often presented for sale. When it is, the eye appeal often falls short of that offered here.

Dies were sent in unhardened form from Philadelphia to the branch mints. Upon arrival at one or another of the destinations the dies were basined (given a curved radius or dishing to the fields), finished, and hardened in the machine shop operated by each mint. These processes varied considerably, giving interesting characteristics to the coins today. Generally, New Orleans pieces were given prooflike surfaces, dies at Charlotte and Dahlonega (for lower denominations) were finished rather roughly and incompletely, and dies at San Francisco were very well finessed. For many gold issues of this era the cataloguer can tell by looking at the *obverse* which mint it is from, without seeing the mintmark on the other side. The same thing is possible in other series, perhaps most often among Morgan dollars.

Prooflike 1858-O Eagle



990 **1858-O AU-55 (NGC).** Light yellow gold. Prooflike surfaces are seen in protected areas of the coin, this being usual for many New Orleans issues due to the die basining process there. The 1858-O is a key issue in any and all grades. The present piece is at once attractive and desirable.

Marvelous 1867 Proof $10 Rarity

Incredible Quality

Highest Solo NGC Grade



(2x photo)

991 **1867 Proof-66 Cameo (NGC).** What a great coin this is! First of all, among NGC coins it is the only piece graded Proof-66 Cameo, no competitors, and nothing higher. Moreover, this certification event took place a number of years ago, and today it might be evaluated at a higher grade. Although the Mint Report states that 50 1867 Proof eagles were made, probably this does not reflect the number distributed, especially since the figure of 30 is given for 1866 and 25 for 1868. Today, the 1867 is an incredible rarity, and it would be difficult to specifically account for more than a dozen pieces.

The present specimen is splendid in its appearance. The portrait is frosty and satiny. There are some *planchet* marks near the cheek, from the original planchet and nothing to do with striking. The stars are needle sharp, the date is bold, the dentils are sharp, and everything else is as hoped for, including deep mirror Proof surface. The same could be said for the reverse, sharp striking, cameo contrast, and splendid deep Proof fields.

It has been our experience that Proof eagles are especially rare, as a class more elusive than the $20 denomination. The acquisition of a piece such as this is more dependent upon the opportunity than the price paid. The 1867 is also rare *as a date*, with circulation strikes hardly ever available in higher grades. If this coin sells to someone else and is tucked away in a collection for a generation, it may be years before another auction offering occurs. An incredible rarity, an incredible coin, an incredible opportunity.

NGC Census: 1; none finer in any designation.

Fantastic Proof 1869 Eagle

Condition Census



(2x photo)

992 1869 Proof-65 ★ Ultra Cameo (NGC). A fantastic coin, this 1869 is the second highest certified by NGC. Just 25 pieces are said to have been struck and, similar to the situation for the 1867, even the most expert of experts would be hard pressed to make a list of the locations of a dozen different pieces. Again, the opportunity is more important than the cost—pay whatever it takes to acquire this beauty, and you will own it. Otherwise, you may not have such an opportunity for a long time.

The obverse and reverse display frosty motifs, letters, and numerals against deep mirror surfaces. The quality is all there, the rarity backs it up (plus the aspect that the 1869 is rare as a *date* in circulated grades) and all other aspects of a classic are present.

NGC Census: 1; 1 finer within all designations (Proof-67★ Ultra Cameo).

Lustrous 1871-S Eagle



993 1871-S AU-50 (NGC). Brilliant with much lustre remaining. A satisfactory specimen of an issue which, when seen, is apt to show extensive wear. Eagles of the 1860s and 1870s are much more elusive than generally thought.

Stunning Proof 1873 $10



(2x photo)

994 1873 Close 3. Proof-64 (PCGS). Another amazing gold Proof coin, this is in the category of the rarest of the rare—struck in an era from which relatively few gold Proofs survive. Just 25 are said to have been struck, but it would be almost impossible to track down even half that number today. This coin has frosted devices, letters, and numerals, all sharply struck, set against deep mirror fields. A piece that is just right. Once again the word *opportunity* comes to the fore, perhaps the most important aspect of this offering.

PCGS Population: 4; none finer.

Important 1876-CC Eagle



995 1876-CC EF-45 (NGC). Light yellow gold. Just 4,696 pieces were struck of the 1876-CC eagle, a rare variety within a generally rare Carson City era.

Incredible Proof 1884 $10

Condition Census



(2x photo)

996 1884 Proof-64 Deep Cameo (PCGS). An incredible example, certified as Proof-64 DCAM by PCGS, and as such, high Condition Census, with just one finer. How many different pieces this involves is anyone's guess. The present coin is incredible in all respects—frosted elements against deep mirrored surfaces with "orange peel" texture, sharp strike, and great beauty. While this piece is not in the rarity category of Proof gold eagles of the previous two decades, still there are so few around that it may be years before we have an equivalent.

PCGS Population: 3; 1 finer within the designation (Proof-65 DCAM).

Some comments concerning Proof gold: Proof gold coins from the dollar to the double eagle became generally available in 1858. As discussed under our present offering of a dollar of that date, such coins seem to have been available singly from the Mint with more being ordered of the smaller denominations, most notably the dollar. In an era when few other current gold coins of any coin were collected, dollars were popular. Scarcely anyone paid attention to higher values such as $5, $10, and $20.

Proofs were produced continuously through 1901, most having frosted cameo surfaces set against deep mirror fields. Gold dollars and $3 pieces were last coined in 1889, after which a gold Proof set consisted of the $2.50, $5, $10, and $20. In 1902 the operation was transferred to the third Philadelphia Mint building. Someone in the Medal Department, where Proofs were made, decided to polish the portrait of Miss Liberty, creating "bright" rather than frosty motifs. This general style continued for the next several years. Perhaps not being aware of this, certain coins have been certified as "cameo" and the like, but they probably should not be. In any event, all are from the same dies.

Beginning with the Saint-Gaudens and Pratt coinages of 1908, the Sandblast Proof method was employed. Under this operation pieces were carefully struck on a medal press using regular (not polished) dies, creating pieces with exquisite detail. They were then blasted on both sides by a fine stream of sand particles. Gold Proofs of this type were not particularly popular with collectors, and in 1909 and 1910 a new style, the Satin Finish Proof, was employed, creating pieces of fairly bright yellow appearance, with satiny surfaces. These, too, were unpopular, to such an extent that at the 1910 American Numismatic Association Convention an official resolution was passed condemning them! At the Mint the coiners reverted to the former Sandblast Proof style for the continuing coinage, 1911 through 1915. Numismatic apathy persisted, mintages became smaller, and after 1915 the production of such pieces ceased.

Relatively unappreciated in their day, Sandblast and Satin Finish Proof coins are very much in the limelight today, and when choice pieces cross the auction block there is always a great deal of excitement. The beauty of these pieces is that it is possible with some persistence to put together a set of the $2.50, $5, $10, and $20 denominations from 1908 through 1915, with no "impossible" rarities with which to contend, although some are extremely elusive. With an element of luck, a run of any one of these series could be accomplished within a space of two, three, or four years, if high-quality pieces with good eye appeal are desired. In contrast, assembling a set of mirror Proof Liberty Head eagles would probably require 10, 20, or 30 years! As noted in our earlier offerings, coins of the 1860s and 1870s rarely appear.



997 **1888-O MS-62 (PCGS).** A very attractive fully Mint State coin, no doubt about that. Sharply struck on the obverse and reverse, worthy of note as such. Attractive lustre, orange-yellow gold in patination. Not many pieces can equal this in terms of numerical grade plus quality.

Under high magnification a delicate tracery of die cracks can be seen connecting most, but not all obverse stars and the first digit of the date. On the reverse a similar situation can be seen among the peripheral letters.

The preceding reminds us that over a decade ago the American Numismatic Certification Service, then headquartered in Colorado Springs, kept much information in the way of technical die details relating to authentic coins as well as forgeries. Often a delineation of die cracks, such as we give for this coin, can in the future identify a similar piece as being authentic (as counterfeiters cannot reproduce delicate die cracks correctly). It would seem to us that today there would be decent market for a technical guide bringing together in a single volume, almanac form, all of the information concerning forgeries that has appeared in back issues of *The Numismatist,* in current columns by Skip Fazzari and others, as well as whatever information the certification services might be retaining. Such would benefit all of numismatics and would serve as a useful reference.

Ideally, one of the mainstream numismatic publishers or the ANA should take this ball and run with it. If that doesn't happen, perhaps NGC or PCGS, both of which are always seeking advantages, could take this on as a project, enlisting the help of others. Numismatics would be well served.

Proof 1889 Eagle



998 **1889 Proof-60,** or a bit finer for general surface quality but the obverse is marred by a rather heavy staple scratch across the lower portion of the coin from star 1 to star 12. Numerous fine hairlines are seen in the fields, but the fields remain very reflective and contrast nicely against the devices.

Mint State 1890-CC Eagle

Lustrous and Attractive



999 **1890-CC MS-62 (PCGS).** Carson City half eagles and eagles are very elusive in Mint State. When seen they are apt to be toward the end of the series, as here. The present piece has satiny lustre, full brilliance, and is very attractive. The reverse exhibits slight prooflike characteristics, not common for a Carson City $10. A splendid piece that the specialist will appreciate.

Superb Gem Proof 1898 $10

The Norweb Coin









1000 1898 Proof-68 Ultra Cameo (NGC). First of all, no other Proof-68 has been awarded by NGC for this design type and none by PCGS either, this piece stands alone, one of a kind. That said, the piece also answers the call for quality, being virtual perfection. The portrait and eagle are frosted, as are the stars, numerals, and letters, all against a mirrored Proof field of the "orange peel" texture. The coin traces its pedigree to the fabulous Norweb Collection, a connection that adds a quintessence to an already marvelous coin. For many years Emery May Holden Norweb was among the foremost connoisseurs in the hobby, carefully considering many coins, but selecting relatively few, of which this is one.

NGC Census: 1; none finer

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Norweb Collection, March 1988, Lot 2272.

Splendid 1899 Proof Eagle

Especially Pleasing



(2x photo)

1001 1899 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC). In an older NGC holder, this coin might be called Ultra or Deep Cameo today. All 1899 Proofs are the same, and if any other one is Deep Cameo, then this piece is also. Just 86 Proofs were struck this year, of which very few survive today in the quality offered here. This particular date has the obverse field deeply *basined,* from the die-making process, adding more curvature than normal, and giving an especially interesting cameo effect. Even if you do not contemplate buying it, check it out for the educational experience, perhaps comparing it to the 1884 Proof offered earlier which is not deeply basined. Such distinctions are not widely known. The present piece combines beauty, rarity, and everything else desirable. Certainly it will be exciting when the moment of sale occurs.

Proof 1899 Eagle



1002 1899 Net Proof-60; or perhaps somewhat better. Upon first look this piece has every bit of the aesthetic appeal of a Proof-64 cameo, with deeply reflective mirrors and sharply contrasting devices. A few hairlines in the fields would be acceptable at the higher grade. However, close inspection reveals that a couple of minor nicks in the obverse rim have been lightly filed. The reverse is superb, and would likely grade gem on its own merits. Needless to say, this is a very nice quality Proof, aside from the noted rim problem and as such it presents a nice opportunity to the more price-conscious collector desiring an example of a 19th-century Proof gold coin—a class of coins that is unfortunately well out of reach for many.

Gem Proof 1900 Eagle

Condition Census Quality



(2x photo)

1003 1900 Proof-65 (PCGS). A splendid Proof example, frosted surfaces against mirror fields with the desirable "orange peel" texture. A few tiny marks are seen on the obverse in front of the nose, probably keeping this from a higher grade. The basining on this coin is quite a bit different from that on the 1899, indeed worth inspecting, as such differences have not been mentioned in print, to our knowledge.

PCGS Population: 5; 4 finer (Proof-67 finest).



1004 **1904-O MS-62 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous and quite attractive, this 1904-O is among the everlastingly popular eagles of this era from the New Orleans Mint. Most production was accomplished elsewhere, namely Philadelphia and San Francisco, with New Orleans pieces in the minority.

Mint State 1910-S Eagle



1005 **1910-S MS-62 (PCGS).** Bright and lustrous with lovely orange gold toning and highlights of pale yellow and blue. Some light bagmarks account for the grade, but none are particularly serious.



1006 **1911 MS-63 (PCGS).** Somewhat subdued lustrous surfaces. Nicely struck.

Beautiful 1911-D Eagle

Lustrous MS-62



(2x photo)

1007 **1911-D MS-62 (NGC).** Brilliant and deeply lustrous, well struck, beautiful, and all told, one of the nicest you will ever see at the MS-62 level. This coin is betwixt and between, low enough in grade that it is not expensive, yet high enough that it possesses much lustre and eye appeal—a characteristic worth considering elsewhere in the present catalogue among gold issues certified in ranges from, say, MS-61 to 63.

Superb Gem Proof 1912 $5
Sandblast Style, Among Finest



(2x photo)

1008 1912 Proof-66 (PCGS). The Sandblast Proof style was used in 1908 and again from 1912 through 1915. Today all are rare, and in an ultra-high grade such as this, any variety is extremely rare. The present piece has exquisite striking and marvelous overall quality, one of the nicest in existence.

PCGS Population: 4; 4 finer (Proof-67 finest).

Gem 1912-S Eagle
Seldom Seen So Fine



(2x photo)

1009 1912-S MS-65 (NGC). Medium gold surfaces, satiny lustre, and a nice strike combine to yield a 1912-S eagle at a grade level not often encountered. Although coins of this design are greatly popular in numismatic circles today, such was not always the case. There was a flurry of interest when the Indian Head design, by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, made its debut in 1907, but after that relatively few people aspired to save them by dates and mints. Indeed, it is likely that fewer than 10 collectors had such a specialty. Today, while the 1912-S is readily available in EF, AU, and even in low Mint State ranges, truly choice and gem examples, as here, are very elusive.

NGC Census: 3; 2 finer (MS-66 finest).

Highly Important 1914 Proof Eagle



(2x photo)

1010 1914 Proof-66 (NGC). Among Proof eagles of the Indian Head type, the 1914 takes the palm in terms of low-mintage quantity, with just 50 struck, far fewer than the nearest contender, the 1913 (with 71 struck). By this time the Sandblast Proof finish was not popular with collectors, sales were sluggish, and, soon, the process was discontinued.

Today, of the relatively few Sandblast Proofs that survive of this date, we doubt if any could be nicer than this, no matter at what level they might be certified. The surfaces are splendid throughout, the details superb, and there are no negatives of any kind. We suggest that if you want an ultimate quality 1914 Proof $10 rarity, your search will stop here. The coin is of unsurpassed beauty and importance.

NGC Census: 4; 5 finer (MS-67 finest).



1011 1926 MS-63 (NGC). Lustrous yellow gold with deeper orange gold highlights. A couple of deeper nicks are noted on the reverse for the sake of accuracy.

Superb Gem 1932 Eagle



1012 1932 MS-66 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous with warm gold-orange surfaces. The 1932 date is not rare, but among those that exist, relatively few can match this in terms of certified grade and eye appeal. Ideal for both type set and specialized collection purposes.

DOUBLE EAGLES

A *Central America* 1857-S in MS-64 is at the forefront of our double eagle offering, with a grand display of branch mint scarcities also offered within the Liberty series. The Trompeter specimen of the rare 1873 double eagle in Proof-65 Cameo is offered, one of only 20 Proofs of the date struck, and a grand prize that will undoubtedly see spirited bidding. A Mint State 1879-CC, the finest graded to date by NGC, is offered, with a gem Proof-65 Cameo 1906 another of the many highlights among the Liberty double eagles presented here. Four MCMVII High Relief double eagles start the Saint-Gaudens portion of the sale, followed by an array of great date and mintmark combinations. One highlight is the remarkable Sandblast Proof-65 1912, an exciting and enticing coin if ever there was one! Another highlight not to be overlooked is the choice MS-64 1926-S, one of the most desirable issues in the series. Double eagles are coming into their own of late, and we suspect this delightful offering will raise the bar in double eagle collecting yet another notch!



1013 1855-S EF-45. Pale yellow gold with some traces of lustre remaining in the protected areas. Good detail remains on both sides. An apparent alloy flaw has resulted in an intermittent line of green verdigris, a minor distraction.

Gorgeous 1857-S Double Eagle

S.S. Central America Treasure



1014 1857-S MS-64 (PCGS). A lovely specimen from the golden treasure rescued from the wreck of the *S.S. Central America.* This particular piece has registration #SSCA-4326, and is of the variety, per Bob Evans' attributions (published in *The Numismatist*), 20B Bold S.

Remarks and Reminiscences

Dwight Manley, president of the California Gold Marketing Group, which brought the *S.S. Central America* gold to the numismatic and wider forum, has often reflected with the present cataloguer (QDB), that we, and all others in the hobby, can be grateful this event happened during our lifetimes. If it had been discovered a century ago, we could only wonder what it would have been like to have been there. Now we know, for we were.

This remarkable treasure, the equal of which has never been found before nor will ever be found again (for no comparable treasure of United States rarities has ever been lost), eclipses anything and everything else in hoards and treasures, perhaps excepting the hundreds of millions of Morgan and Peace dollars held by banks. Actually, those belong to a different category, as they are not "lost" treasure at all, but instead were simply waiting to be appreciated by numismatists, their existence already known (except for certain dates).

The "Ship of Gold" exhibit has been a fantastic attraction in the past several years, most recently "sailing" to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in February 2004. There it attracted tens of thousands of people, so many that crowd control posts and tapes had to be put up, sometimes with hundreds of people waiting in line. That same event had been host to the Hope diamond, Faberge eggs, and other attractions, but never before was it necessary for crowd control to be put into place.

At an earlier time, the "Ship of Gold" was exhibited at the California State Fair, where Dwight Manley estimates that 750,000 people came to see it! Today the gold from this treasure, amounting to about 7,500 coins and about 500 ingots, is carefully preserved by collectors, museums, and dealers all over the United States and indeed the world.

Among the coins found most were 1857-S double eagles, as here. Slightly over 5,400 were recovered. Nearly every one was sharply struck and, after conservation, was found to have great eye appeal—a truly remarkable situation, as before then scarcely any double eagle of any date of the Type 1 design (1850-1866), was known in quality equal to the piece offered here.

From the S.S. Central America.

Splendid 1858-S Double Eagle



1015 1858-S AU-58 (NGC). Sharply struck, brilliant, and lustrous-very close to Mint State. The 1858-S, not represented in any major hoards to our knowledge, is quite elusive in high grades such as this. Perhaps if you own an 1857-S treasure coin from the *S.S. Central America,* or one or another of the interesting treasure issues from this era (with coins from the *S.S. Republic* now coming on the market), this would be a nice piece to add to it.

1858-S Double Eagle



1016 1858-S Net AU-55; sharpness of MS-60 or perhaps a little finer, but cleaned in the past resulting in moderately heavy hairlines on the obverse. However, the color is a pleasing yellow gold, the fields retain traces of mild prooflike reflectivity in the most protected recesses, and the devices are sharp and satiny. A rather nice example of the date regardless of the past mishandling.

Enticing 1861 Double Eagle

Satiny Mint State



1017 1861 MS-63 (NGC). Sharply struck with satiny mint lustre (the type of lustre usually seen for this issue) and with a good deal of eye appeal. Rich yellow-orange gold. A very appealing example of this issue, not a great rarity, but certainly elusive with such attractive surfaces.

Several factors have come together to sharply increase the interest in collecting double eagles. It's about time! When you consider that over 75% of the metal converted into coins by all of the different mints from 1850 through 1933, the span of life of the $20, was produced in the form of double eagles, certainly these pieces deserve recognition. Fortunately, large quantities survive today, making collecting of them a distinct possibility for many different numismatists.



1018 1861 AU-58. Rich satiny lustre is seen on both sides. Some lines can be observed, particularly under magnification, but seem to be nicely taken care of as part of the AU-58 designation, although we mention them anyway. As will be seen by even a quick inspection during the lot viewing process, this early double eagle has a great deal of eye appeal.

Attractive 1861-S $20

Regular Reverse



1019 1861-S AU-58 (NGC). An attractive example in bright yellow gold, highly lustrous, of this popular San Francisco issue. Not rare as a date, but certainly elusive with this much original lustre. The coin was minted too late to be included in such treasures as those recovered from the *S.S. Yankee Blade* which sank in 1854 and the *S.S. Central America* which went down in 1857, and too early to have survived in nice condition as part of the remarkable treasures found in the *S.S. Brother Jonathan* (1865) and the current sensation, the *S.S. Republic* (also 1865).

Highly Attractive 1862-S $20



1020 1862-S AU-55 (NGC). A highly attractive example of this San Francisco double eagle, the present piece retains the majority of lustre and, beyond that, has a splendid appearance. On the reverse there is some verdigris among the resplendent rays, perhaps removable easily enough by careful numismatic conservation. Far above average in terms of what is typically seen for this date and mint.



1021 1862-S EF-45 (NGC). Medium yellow gold. A popular San Francisco issue, one that did its duty in circulation and shows it.

During this time double eagles did not circulate in the East or Midwest, but in California and other Pacific Coast states they were a staple of commerce. Today it is a general rule of thumb that the typical San Francisco issue from the 1860s is a grading step or two below the typical Philadelphia variety encountered.

1022 Quintette of double eagles ☆ 1862-S VF-35. Subdued honey gold surfaces ☆ 1883-S AU-58. Lustrous ☆ 1900 MS-60. Lustrous ☆ 1904-S (2). AU-55. Lustrous; AU-50. Cleaned. (Total: 5 pieces)

Fantastic Gem Proof 1873 $20

Top of the NGC Census

Only Twenty Coined

The Trompeter Specimen









1023 1873 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC). A brilliant specimen with cameo surfaces, "orange peel" fields, and excellent visual appeal. The present coin is one of only 20 Proofs struck in 1873, all with the Close 3 digit, and one of only about a dozen or so that exist today. How many survive at the gem level is not known, due to resubmission. However, through the portals of NGC just two certification events have taken place at the Proof-65 level, and none finer.

The demand for Proof gold coins was not strong in the 1870s, and a production figure of 20 was the minimum for several years during this decade, typically from the gold dollar to the double eagle. Such coins are said to have been sold in sets, but extra pieces might have been struck, particularly of the lower denominations. Mint records were quite casual at the time.

Among Proof sets of the 19th century the 1873 has more coins in it than any other. Accordingly, it has captured the imagination and interest of several collectors over the years, including Harry X Boosel and Roy Harte, to mention just two of the better known. A full 1873 set, one of everything from the cent to the double eagle would include the following coins: Indian cent, two-cent piece, nickel three-cent piece, silver three-cent piece or trime, shield nickel, half dime, Liberty Seated dime without arrows, Liberty Seated dime with arrows, Liberty Seated quarter dollar without arrows, Liberty Seated quarter dollar with arrows, Liberty Seated half dollar without arrows, Liberty Seated half dollar with arrows, Liberty Seated silver dollar, trade dollar, gold dollar, quarter eagle, $3 gold, half eagle, eagle, and double eagle. This comes to the impressive total of 20 pieces!

Refocusing on the present offering, if putting together an 1873 Proof set is on your agenda, a grand way to start would be with this coin.

NGC Census: 2; none finer.

From the Trompeter Collection.

Lustrous 1873 Open 3 $20



1024 **1873 Open 3. MS-61 (NGC).** Brilliant, well struck, and lustrous, a coin with a great deal of eye appeal. Some marks are seen here and there, but they are few in terms of what is typically seen on today's MS-61 coin. As anyone conversant with double eagles will quickly see by examining the present piece, there are quite a few others out there graded MS-62 and MS-63 that are not as nice as this.



1025 **1873 Open 3. MS-61 (NGC).** A frosty Mint State specimen with strong lustre and a nuance of pale rose. If judged by the reverse alone, the grade would far exceed that which is assigned. One of the few dates in the Type II double eagle series that can be readily obtained in Mint State grades, though MS-60 to 62 is the usual grade for Uncirculated specimens of the issue.

1026 **1873 Open 3. AU-58 (NGC).** Well struck and lustrous. Normal bagmarks for the issue. This is a member of the somewhat scarce Type 2 issue of 1866-1876.

1027 **Quartette of double eagles grading AU-58:** ☆ 1873 (2) ☆ 1876 ☆ 1876-S. All are lustrous and attractive. (Total: 4 pieces)

1028 **Quartette of Liberty double eagles:** ☆ 1873 Open 3. AU-58 ☆ 1883-S AU-58 ☆ 1896 AU-58 ☆ 1897-S MS-61. Each is lustrous and attractive. (Total: 4 pieces)

1029 **1874-S AU-58 (PCGS).** Lustrous and frosty. Nice strike.

Mint State 1875-S Double Eagle



1030 **1875-S MS-60.** Bright yellow gold surfaces with traces of pleasing rose toning. Boldly lustrous and attractive.

1031 **1876-S AU-55 (PCGS).** Lustrous and attractive. Medium yellow-orange gold.

Landmark Quality 1879-CC $20

Lustrous Mint State

Solo Finest NGC Certified



(2x photo)

1032 1879-CC MS-62 (NGC). A lustrous, lovely specimen of the 1879-CC double eagle, a variety that is enumerated among the scarcest of its era, and which in the *Guide Book of United States Coins* is not listed higher than MS-60. The present specimen stands all by itself at the apex of the NGC certification pyramid, the only piece graded MS-62 with none equal or finer.

The coin itself fully fulfills the MS-62 grade classification and, if anything, is conservatively attributed as such. The striking is excellent, with superb detail, including on the highest strands of Miss Liberty's hair below the coronet, and, on the reverse, the details of the eagle. Both obverse and reverse fields are fully lustrous with a satiny finish. Scattered marks are seen here and there, typical of the MS-62 grade, but not as many as seen on some MS-62 coins.

For the double eagle specialist this represents an opportunity that would be impossible to overemphasize. Our congratulations go in advance to the successful bidder.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

1033 Trio of Mint State double eagles: ☆ 1884-S MS-60. Pale golden with hints of rose ☆ 1892-S MS-60. Lustrous with traces of delicate toning ☆ 1899 MS-60. Obverse lacquered. (Total: 3 pieces)

Lovely and Rare 1885-CC $20



1034 1885-CC AU-50 (PCGS). A lovely specimen in light yellow gold. Some lustre remains on the obverse, and most of the original lustre is still seen on the reverse. Carson City double eagles are everlastingly popular, and at any given time quite a few people endeavor to obtain one of each date, perhaps never getting an 1870-CC but acquiring most of the others.



1035 1885-CC VF-25. Pale yellow gold, and lightly cleaned in the past. Some orange toning is still visible in the protected recesses. A couple of rather obvious rim nicks are noted.



1036 1893-S MS-62 (NGC). Sharply struck, brilliant, and lustrous. A high-grade example of this popular San Francisco issue.

Choice 1894 Double Eagle

Satiny Lustre



1037 **1894 MS-64 (NGC).** Satiny lustre, somewhat subdued, over well-struck surfaces. A far above average example of the popular 1894 date.

1038 **Trio of Liberty double eagles grading MS-62:** ☆ 1894-S (NGC). Lustrous with rose highlights on both surfaces ☆ 1898-S (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous ☆ 1899-S (PCGS). Satiny lustre with hints of delicate rose. (Total: 3 pieces)

Choice 1895 Double Eagle



1039 **1895 MS-64 (ICG).** Brilliant with satiny lustre. Well struck. A very pleasing example of the date, mint, and assigned grade.

Choice 1895-S Double Eagle



1040 **1895-S MS-63 (NGC).** Brilliant and deeply lustrous. Nicely struck. Offerings such as this remind us how affordable it is to form a collection of Liberty Head double eagles of the 1890s and early 20th century. If you are attracted to the appeal of gold, rather than buying 20 of a single date, why not consider getting as many dates and mints as possible.

Choice 1896-S Double Eagle



1041 **1896-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Nicely struck and very lustrous. Another quality double eagle from the 1890s.

1042 1897-S AU-50. Brilliant and somewhat prooflike (on the obverse).

Splendid 1898-S Double Eagle



1043 **1898-S MS-64 (NGC).** Satiny lustre, this being characteristic of the double eagles of the era. Sharply struck. A splendid specimen that evokes stories of the Klondike, the popular song (a couple of decades ago) "North to Alaska," and other things—this being the focus as well for the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. There is a lot of romance connected with the Klondike, but it is not as well known numismatically as is the California Gold Rush. For those who missed the California Gold Rush (which peaked in 1853 in terms of metal production), and who didn't strike it rich in the "Pikes Peak or Bust" excitement of 1859, and were not among the early arrivals at Cripple Creek in the early 1890s, the Klondike offered other opportunities. However, going across the snow-covered Chilkoot Pass must have been the ultimate in discomfort.

Lustrous 1900-S $20



1044 **1900-S MS-63 (PCGS).** Sharply struck and lustrous. Warm yellow-orange gold. A nice example of this popular issue.

Gem Proof 1903 Double Eagle



(2x photo)

1045 1903 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC). A splendid specimen in attractive yellow gold. Popular "orange peel" fields. Sharply struck. Portrait slightly polished in the dies, as is true of all this year (but still called "cameo" by NGC); all are from the same die pair. Of the 158 Proof double eagles made in 1903, only a small percentage could match the quality of the coin offered. The present piece is of commanding interest to the specialist and connoisseur.

NGC Census: 3; none finer.



1046 1903 MS-64 (NGC). Bright yellow gold. Lustrous and just what one might expect of this date and grade.

Gem 1904 Double Eagle



1047 1904 MS-65 (PCGS). Sharply struck and with satiny lustre (as usually seen). A very handsome example of this popular date.



1048 1904 MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant with satiny lustre. A very nice example at this grade level.



1049 1904 MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant with satiny lustre. Sharply struck and certainly beautiful.



1050 1904 MS-64. Intensely lustrous satiny surfaces display heavy orange gold iridescence. A beautiful coin for the grade.

1051 1904 MS-63 (NGC). Brilliant with somewhat subdued lustre.



1052 1904-S MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant, lustrous, attractive.

Highly Important 1906 Proof $20

A Cameo Gem



(2x photo)

1053 1906 Proof-65 Cameo (NGC). A bright yellow gold specimen, described as "cameo" and with the portrait *partially* such (in this year the portraits were slightly polished, this having started at the Mint in 1902). Exquisite detail. A truly outstanding example from among just 94 Proofs struck, all from the same pair of dies and all with the same semi-cameo (or whatever) appearance.

Beyond that, the 1906 is remarkable as a rare date, placing additional market pressure and numismatic interest on Proofs when they are occasionally offered. The present piece has much to recommend it and no doubt will be a highlight in this portion of our sale.

NGC Census: 4; 1 finer (Proof-66 Cameo).

1054 1907 Liberty. MS-63 (NGC). Richly lustrous and quite attractive. Last year of the long-lived Liberty Head design created by James B. Longacre in 1849.

Attractive MCMVII High Relief $20

Choice Mint State



(2x photo)

1055 MCMVII (1907) High Relief, Wire Rim. MS-64 (PCGS). Offered here is a lustrous and attractive example of everybody's favorite, a coin considered by many to be the most beautiful motif used for circulating American coinage. Just 12,367 were minted. These artistic double eagles created a great sensation in their time, with the result that the majority of pieces were set aside by bankers, speculators, and numismatists. In later years many of these were returned to circulation, or were mishandled, but today probably 6,000 or so still survive, mostly in lesser grades than offered here. Although a choice MCMVII $20 is hardly inexpensive, there are enough that most advanced collectors can add a specimen to their cabinets.

The story of the MCMVII double eagle is well known, and was the result of cooperation between President Theodore Roosevelt and sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Roosevelt desired to improve the entire American coinage from the cent to the double eagle and commissioned the artist to do so. Saint-Gaudens had a vast repertoire of accomplishments, ranging from medals to heroic-size civic sculptures. Sketches were made of certain denominations, but only the Indian $10 and the MCMVII High Relief $20 saw fruition. The sculptor was in declining health, and died on August 3, 1907. The final details of his work were completed by his assistant, Henry Hering.

The motif of the double eagle is taken from the statue known as *Fame*, part of the *Sherman Victory* group erected on a pedestal in the Grand Army Plaza at the

southeast corner of Central Park, New York City. On the coin there are slight modifications, but the essential features of the goddess remain the same.

The story of this coin is told in Dave Bowers' recent *A Guide Book of Double Eagle Gold Coins*, a copy of which will be furnished upon request to the successful bidder. For this present catalogue we add selected early items adapted from Mehl's *Numismatic Monthly*, published in Fort Worth, Texas, and bringing to readers of that era views of current events. These are news articles and clippings Mehl gathered from various sources. At that time facts were scarce, rumors and opinions abounded, and a lot of misinformation was disseminated. The following is to be taken with a grain of salt and falls into the category of interesting and amusing reading. For the *facts* refer to the aforementioned Bowers text, the Breen *Encyclopedia*, or another *modern* references. In the accounts below, modern comments by QDB are added in brackets:

HUMOR AND RUMOR-THE MCMVII $20

New $20 Coins Released

New Gold Coins. Philadelphia, Dec. 4.-

The first installment of new $20 pieces has been shipped from the United States Mint in this city to various Sub-Treasuries about the country. There are 115,000 of them, their monetary value being $2,300,000. On one side of the coin is an eagle flying with outstretched wings, while on the other side is the figure of "Liberty." The coins are concave, the figures in high relief, nine strokes of the hydraulic press being required to make them. Hereafter only one stroke will be used, and thus the coins just circulated will be different from those to be put in circulation later.

[The mintage figure is wildly incorrect.]

Our New Twenty-Dollar Gold Coins

A Humorous Description of Our New Beautiful Coins, from the Fort Worth *Telegram*

Two of the Roosevelt "anti-In God We Trust" coins are in Fort Worth. A Main street saloon keeper might have had a third, but he declined the medal style coin which is now quoted at a $28 market value, because he didn't think it was real money.

Coinage of the $20 pieces has been stopped, and they are advancing at an astonishing rate. G.. Colvin, cashier of the American National Bank, has one of the coins and Sam Cowan, general attorney for the Texas Cattle Raisers' association, has another, obtained while on a trip to Washington.

Just why the $20 pieces have been taken from circulation is not clear. Report that there is no demand for the coins among the laboring classes because they will not stack may be at the bottom of it. Others maintain it is the deference to the protests of religious people against the omission of "In God We Trust."

The coins more nearly resemble medals than money. The milled edge of a coin is supplanted by E Pluribus Unum and thirteen stars run around the rim. Liberty, full front, in a cross between a Grecian classic drapery and an empire gown, stands a little to the southwest of the Roman dating MCMVII.

The eagle on the opposite side of the coin is too busy flying .across its face to handle the thirteen leaved olive branch, so Liberty has been put to work. She takes to the job in great shape and waves the wand like a tall girl in the second grammar grade doing calisthenics.

The eagle and Liberty had a falling out of some sort before the coins were stamped. As punishment it been decreed that either Baldy or the goddess must be upside down. If you put Liberty on her feet the eagle performs the remarkable feat of flying on his back. If you turn the bird around like an well-behaved official bird should be, Liberty needs the hoops the dainty acrobats use to worry the front row.

Space the cartoonist didn't have time to fill in before going to press has been deeply reamed out, giving the coin the proper Rocky Mountain effect. Fitted with a handle it would serve admirably as a demitasse.

However, you needn't accept the coin if you don't want to. If somebody shoves one at you just remember that they won't stack and walk away before he recovers. The coin is certainly a curiosity; then, most any $20 gold coin is.

Notwithstanding the above, the new $20 gold coins are, by far, the most beautiful issued by the United States. In a recent editorial </Collier's had the following to say in regard to these coins:

"The attacks on Mr. Roosevelt indulged in by the Wall Street press extend to more absurd indirection than could easily be thought. The co-operation of the President with Augustus Saint-Gaudens. must be part cause of the insane censure of the new coins. A judgment of this kind gets started, and then it is tossed about by thousands who have never seen the coins, or who, having seen them, form no independent judgment, but merely discharge the opinion with which they have been already loaded. Some there are, no doubt, whose taste, even if it were left free play, would much prefer the conventional, overloaded, and stupid designs, but many of the loudest critics must know better. The coins are beautiful, dignified and fitting. We know of none in modern times by which they are surpassed."

Choice MCMVII (1907) High Relief $20

Exceptional Eye Appeal



(2x photo)

1056 MCMVII (1907) High Relief, Flat Rim. MS-64 (PCGS). A lovely specimen with a generous measure of eye appeal, this MCMVII High Relief is in warm yellow-orange gold, bright and with the usual satiny lustre. Much could be written about the history and desirability of this issue, and of course has been, a twice-told tale that is ever enjoyable to contemplate.

In a way the MCMVII is quite egalitarian. Although only 12,367 were struck, probably half or more exist today, making this piece readily available. However, the demand for the MCMVII, everlasting it would seem, makes such pieces expensive. However, everything is relative, and when coins are put back on the market there is always a good demand for them.

Gorgeous MCMVII (1907) High Relief $20



(2x photo)

1057 MCMVII (1907) High Relief, Flat Rim. MS-64 (PCGS). A lovely specimen—take your pick of several opportunities in this sale—of what many consider to be America's most beautiful coin design. *Unfortunately,* only 12,367 were minted for circulation, a very smaller figure. *Fortunately* perhaps half of these were saved by investors, numismatists, speculators, and others at the time. If not, such pieces would be both unavailable and unaffordable. As it is, quality examples such as this are hardly inexpensive, but they are available. The present piece will be a great joy to its next owner.

Another MCMVII High Relief $20



(2x photo)

1058 MCMVII (1907) High Relief, Wire Rim. MS-62 (NGC). Another example of this issue, well struck, and quite attractive. The wire rim is very pronounced. This grade is high enough to create a coin that is lustrous and attractive, and yet low enough that the realization will probably be a bit less than $15,000, in contrast to, say, an MS-64 or finer coin.

Superb Gem 1908 No Motto $20



1059 1908 No Motto. MS-66 (PCGS). A lustrous specimen in warm yellow gold. Well struck, which is not always the case. A nice example of this popular issue.

Another Gem 1908 No Motto $20



1060 1908 No Motto. MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous. Another example of this variety. We can be very thankful to Ron Gillio and others involved with the Wells Fargo Hoard, containing 19,900 examples of this variety, nearly all of which were Mint State. Otherwise this and related pieces would probably sell for twice the current price.

1061 1908 No Motto. MS-64 (PCGS). Richly lustrous and attractive. One of relatively few examples we have seen recently that is *not* from the famous Wells Fargo Hoard brought to light by Ron Gillio, and described in length in Dave Bowers' *A Guide Book of U.S. Gold Double Eagles*.

1062 Pair of NGC-certified double eagles: ☆ 1908 No Motto. MS-63. Lustrous with hints of reddish gold in the fields ☆ 1911-D MS-61. Lustrous orange gold. (Total: 2 pieces)

1063 Trio of double eagles: ☆ 1908 No Motto. AU-58. Subdued surfaces ☆ 1910 MS-63. Lustrous with obverse scratch noted ☆ 1923 MS-60. Lustrous rose-gold surfaces. (Total: 3 pieces)

Choice 1909 $20

Scarce So Fine



1064 1909 MS-64 (PCGS). Richly lustrous choice Mint State, this 1909 double eagle also offers the advantage of being very well struck, with good details—not necessarily true of many others. Among Saint-Gaudens twenties of this era the 1909 is one of the scarcer, particularly in grades above MS-63. The present piece will be attractive to many bidders.



1065 1910 MS-65 (NGC). A frosty and highly lustrous honey gold gem with rich peach and rose highlights. Sharp and appealing, and free of all but some faint, well-hidden marks. Just four examples of the date have been certified finer by NGC, making acquisition of a lovely MS-65 specimen such as this even more appealing.

1066 1910-D MS-64 (NGC). Strong underlying lustre on satiny rose gold surfaces.

1067 1911-D MS-64 (NGC). A pleasing golden specimen with strong lustre and nice overall appeal.

1068 1911-D MS-64 (NGC). And *another* nice specimen of the date with grand lustre and eye appeal.

1069 1911-D MS-63 (PCGS). A third choice Mint State specimen, this with attractive lustre over light yellow fields. Some bag marks are present, but fewer than normally seen at the MS-63 grade. The fields are somewhat matte, somewhat reminiscent of the surfaces seen on Matte Proof Lincoln cents and Buffalo nickels of this era (take a few minutes during lot viewing and check this out under magnification).

1070 Pair of 1911-D double eagles grading MS-62 (NGC). Both are lustrous and attractive. (Total: 2 pieces)

1071 Pair of San Francisco double eagles: ☆ 1911-S MS-62 ☆ 1916-S MS-63. Both with attractive surfaces. (Total: 2 pieces)

Remarkable Proof 1912 Double Eagle

Gem Sandblast Issue



(2x photo)

1072 1912 Proof-65 (NGC). A lovely specimen, in *light* yellow Sandblast Proof finish (the color can vary on these over the years from dark to light). Certainly this is one of the finest survivors among only 74 Proofs struck. A *true* find for the advanced collector.

Notable 1913 Double Eagle



1073 1913 MS-64 (NGC). Lustrous Mint State. Well struck and very attractive. A notable example of one of the scarcer issues of this era, especially in choice Mint State.

1074 Trio of Mint State double eagles: ☆ 1914-S (2). MS-62; MS-61 ☆ 1925 MS-62. Each is brilliant and lustrous. (Total: 3 pieces)

Superb Gem 1924 $20



1075 1924 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant and richly lustrous. Not rare, not hard to find, but this particular coin is as pretty as a picture. As such it is special among its peers.

Superb Gem 1924 $20



1076 1924 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant with warm orange gold lustre. Not rare as a date, but certainly attractive to the eye.

Gem 1924 Double Eagle



1077 1924 MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant, lustrous, sharply struck, and beautiful. An outstanding example at the MS-65 level, significantly finer than usually classified as such.

1078 1924 MS-64 (PCGS). Brilliant, lustrous, and completely satisfactory.

1079 1924 MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous.

1080 1924 MS-64 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous. A worthwhile specimen of this grade.

Superb 1925 $20



1081 1925 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant, lustrous, and very attractive.

Another Superb 1925 Double Eagle



1082 1925 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant, lustrous, and well worth considering for purchase.

Yet Another 1925 Double Eagle Gem



1083 1925 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant and lustrous. Deeply frosty. Some light toning at the center obverse.

Another Attractive Gem 1925 $20



1084 1925 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant, lustrous and attractive. This leads us to recommend our "One Lot Only" bidding option. In that way you can compete on this string of gem MS-66 1925 double eagles offered here, but be assured of winning no more than one.

Superb 1925 Double Eagle



1085 1925 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant, lustrous, and desirable.

Final Gem 1925 $20



1086 1925 MS-66 (PCGS). Brilliant, lustrous, attractive, and a fitting conclusion to this fine listing.

1087 Pair of double eagles grading MS-63: ☆ 1925 ☆ 1927. Both are lustrous and attractive. (Total: 2 pieces)

Scarce 1925-S $20



1088 1925-S Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-55, but cleaned resulting in hairlines and a generally pale gold appearance. However, decent lustre remains and the 1925-S issue is scarce enough that some imperfections can be forgiven by a collector needing this elusive date.

Gem 1926 Double Eagle



1089 **1926 MS-66 (PCGS).** A superb gem example of the date or type with a bold strike and rich yellow gold toning and exceptionally radiant mint lustre. A visual delight!

Rare 1926-S $20



1090 **1926-S MS-64 (PCGS).** A sharply struck, brilliant, and especially lovely example of this rare date. The story of the 1926-S, as well as other pieces of this era is delineated in detail in Dave Bowers' relatively new publication by Whitman, *A Guide Book of U.S. Gold Double Eagles*. This book has been very popular and has enhanced interest and awareness in this already popular series.

In brief, the 1926-S was considered to be a formidable rarity in the 1940s. Afterwards more came to light in overseas hoards. Today the issue remains rare, but not impossibly so. The coin offered here has an unusually nice combination of eye appeal and high grade and must be regarded as significantly finer than normally encountered.



1091 **1927 MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous.



1092 **1927 MS-64 (PCGS).** Lustrous and attractive.

Among Saint-Gaudens double eagles of the 1920s, many from 1922 through 1928 inclusive, particularly of the Philadelphia Mint, are quite affordable. Why not use this catalogue to start a date run of your own, a small collection within a collection.

1093 **1927 MS-63 (PCGS).** Brilliant and lustrous. Very pleasing.



1094 **1928 MS-65 (PCGS).** Brilliant, lustrous, and attractive. Last readily collectible date in the Saint-Gaudens series.

1095 **1928 MS-64 (NGC).** Choice and lustrous.

1096 **1928 MS-64 (NGC).** Brilliant, lustrous, and attractive.



Is there any room to sit down? The extensively and ornately furnished and appointed parlor in the home of Mrs. Potter Palmer, Lake Shore Drive, Chicago. Mrs. Palmer was the leading figure in the Board of Lady Managers of the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, and was responsible for having the 1893 Isabella commemorative quarter dollars made.

COMMEMORATIVE COINS

A gem Mint State-66 1900 Lafayette dollar is the first of many highlights, while a Sandblast Proof 1925 Norse-American medal, thick planchet style, rounds out the offering of silver commemorative issues. In between you will find a superb selection of desirable issues that are almost certain to cause you to hold your bidding paddle high!

While only four gold commemoratives make an appearance in this sale, one of them is of the utmost importance! We are extremely pleased to offer an MCMXV-S (1915-S) Panama-Pacific $50 Round in stunning gem MS-65, one of only 483 examples of the design type sold, and a rarity that is easily among the most desirable of all U.S. gold issues, commemorative or not!



1097 1893 Isabella quarter. MS-64 (PCGS). Lustrous silver surfaces with splashes of electric blue and magenta, arranged in a halo or "album toning" manner, indicative of storage in a Raymond "National" page or similar holder. A delightful example of the scarcest, by far, of the three commemoratives issued for the World's Columbian Exposition.

The Isabella quarter was somewhat of an afterthought, and did not share in the publicity garnered by the 1892 and 1893 half dollars. Produced at the request of the Board of Lady Managers and sold only in the women's building at a price of $1 each, sales of the coins were sluggish, as buying a quarter dollar for $1 did not seem to be as good a deal as buying a half dollar for the same price. Many remained unsold after the event and passed into the hands of S.C. Stevens, Chicago dealer. However, by the 1920s virtually all had been filtered into numismatic hands, after which the price rose steadily.

1098 1893 Isabella quarter. MS-63 (PCGS). Highly lustrous with a deep olive-gray obverse highlighted by warm golden toning near center. Reverse likewise highly lustrous, a shade lighter with intermingled gold and silver gray. A nice example for the grade.

1099 Trio of commemorative coins ☆ 1893 Isabella quarter. AU-58. Lightly cleaned at one time ☆ 1921 Alabama 2X2. MS-62. Lustrous with splashes of gold and iridescent blue ☆ 1935 Connecticut. AU-58. Satiny champagne surfaces with splashes of rich silver gray. (Total: 3 pieces)

Exceptional Grade 1900 Lafayette Dollar



(2x photo)

1100 1900 Lafayette dollar. MS-66 (PCGS). Light gray, blue, and gold toning, nicely blended over satiny lustrous surfaces. An exceptionally high-grade example of this popular coin, a variety which typically shows extensive bagmarks. Not often do we have one at this level to offer in a sale.

On one day, December 14, 1899, the entire production of 50,000 1900-dated Lafayette dollars was struck, this being the 100th anniversary of the death of George Washington, one of two figures depicted on the obverse. Offered for sale at $2 per coin, response was not up to expectations, and eventually 14,000 were melted. A tragicomic situation occurred in the 1940s when Aubrey Bebee learned that in the Treasury Building, Washington, some undistributed mint-sealed bags remained in a vault. He contacted the Treasury and found that just recently they had been melted. This scenario is described in Dave Bowers' 1992 study, *Commemorative Coins of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*.

From a technical viewpoint the 1900 Lafayette dollar is very interesting. For expanded details consult Dave Bowers' *Commemorative Coins of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia*.

Lustrous 1900 Lafayette $1



1101 1900 Lafayette dollar. MS-63. A brilliant, lustrous specimen of this popular design. A thin line is visible on the reverse behind the seated figure, seen only when the coin is held at a certain angle to the light, and possibly not deserving of notice, but we mention it anyway. Surfaces on both sides are richly lustrous, brilliant, with a slight suggestion of toning.

Curiously and completely different from other coinage of the era, the several obverse and reverse dies used to make this coinage were created *by hand*, not from master dies or hubs. The letters were entered individually around the border. Accordingly, there are *major die varieties*, the only commemorative coins to have such.

1102 Quintette of commemorative half dollars grading MS-65: ☆ 1936 Albany. Lustrous with just a whisper of rose highlights ☆ 1926-S Oregon Trail. Mottled golden toning with splashes of iridescent blue-green on both surfaces ☆ 1937 Roanoke. Lustrous champagne surfaces ☆ 1925 Stone Mountain. Lustrous with just a whisper of lilac-gray and splashes of rich golden brown at the peripheries ☆ 1936 Wisconsin. Satiny rose-gray surfaces. (Total: 5 pieces)

1103 Group of Mint State commemorative half dollars: ☆ 1936-D Arkansas. MS-65 (NGC). Mixture of gray, gold, rose, and sky blue on the obverse, reverse with golden rose center and rich lavender at the periphery ☆ 1937 Boone. MS-66 (PCGS). Rich gold with splashes of rose and sky blue ☆ 1936 Cleveland. MS-66 (PCGS). Lustrous with splashes of faint rose and bluish gray on the obverse, reverse with mottled golden orange and golden brown over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1920 Pilgrim. MS-65 (NGC). Mottled rose, gray, and gold over lustrous surfaces ☆ 1935-S San Diego. MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous with just a hint of gold on both surfaces ☆ 1936 Texas. MS-66 (PCGS). Satiny lustre with hints of golden rose ☆ 1946-D Booker T. Washington. MS-66 (NGC). Satiny golden gray and rose surfaces. (Total: 7 pieces)



1104 1925-S California. MS-65 (PCGS). Lustrous with light gold over well-struck features. A nice example of the 1925-S California, one of the finest designs of its era. Writing about commemoratives in 1937, B. Max Mehl stated this was his very favorite.



1105 1925-S California. MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant and lustrous with a whisper of golden toning. Another significantly above average piece.

1106 Group of commemorative half dollars ☆ 1952 Carver-Washington. MS-64. Lustrous centers with rich golden toning at the peripheries ☆ 1924 Huguenot. MS-63. Lustrous with golden orange and blue-green at the peripheries ☆ 1946 Iowa. MS-64. Soft silver gray surfaces ☆ 1920 Pilgrim. MS-64. Lustrous rose-gray ☆ 1936 Robinson. MS-63. Lustrous with just a hint of lilac-gray at the rims ☆ 1946 Booker T. Washington. MS-64. Satiny with splashes of golden toning on the obverse ☆ 1936 York. MS-64. Lustrous rose-gold with splashes of rich silver gray. (Total: 7 pieces)

1107 1953-S Carver-Washington. MS-66 (NGC). Light lilac and gray toning with some hints of gunmetal-blue, over lustrous surfaces. Another commemorative for the aficionado of nice toning.

1108 1936-D Cincinnati. MS-65 (NGC). A splendid specimen with satiny lustre and delicate toning. One of the nicest imaginable. Often this variety comes with nicks or marks. The present coin is far finer than usually seen.

1109 1892 Columbian. MS-65 (PCGS). Rich satiny lustre with light lilac toning to which some hints of green are added. First of the commemorative half dollars.

1110 1892 Columbian. MS-65 (NGC). Brilliant with satiny lustre. Delicate toning. A very nice example of the first of two years of this issue.



1111 1936 Delaware. MS-67 (NGC). Light lilac and gold toning over surfaces that are virtual perfection. To see this coin is to want to raise your hand in the air and keep it there until it is yours.

1112 Pair of commemorative half dollars grading MS-65 (NGC): ☆ 1936 Gettysburg. Satiny golden surfaces ☆ 1927 Vermont. Lustrous with splashes of pale gold. (Total: 2 pieces)



1113 **1924 Huguenot. MS-66 (PCGS).** Magenta-gray toning on the obverse and reverse over lustrous surfaces, with some splashes of iridescence on the reverse.

1114 **1920 Maine. MS-66 (PCGS).** Richly lustrous and mostly brilliant, with light toning. A delightful example of the Maine half dollar. Not easy to find so choice.

1115 **1934 Maryland. MS-66 (PCGS).** Intense gray and gold toning over lustrous surfaces.

Gem 1921 Missouri Half Dollar
2★4 in Field



1116 **1921 Missouri 2★4. MS-65 (NGC).** A splendid specimen with light to medium golden toning with splashes of iridescence over lustrous surfaces. *Significantly better struck than usually seen,* which for our money, may be even more important than the gem designation. All told, this is one of the nicest examples of the variety you will ever see.

Gem 1921 Missouri Plain 50¢



1117 **1921 Missouri. Plain. MS-65 (NGC).** Brilliant and lustrous. A gem specimen of one of the two varieties made this year, the present lacking the 2★4 in the field. Always popular.

Gem 1923-S Monroe Half Dollar



1118 **1923-S Monroe. MS-65 (PCGS).** A brilliant and lustrous specimen with some lightly mottled gray toning. The relief on this issue is rather poor, and some understanding must be added when evaluating quality. The present coin is quite nice for the variety.



1119 **1923-S Monroe. MS-64 (PCGS).** Frosty with some lightly mottled gray toning. The lustre is significantly better than usual, and bagmarks are minimal. Among half dollars of this type the present piece is certainly *very choice.* Perhaps it is graded one number less than it could be.

Superb Gem 1938 New Rochelle 50¢
Only One Finer Graded



1120 **1938 New Rochelle. MS-68 (NGC).** Richly lustrous, brilliant, and superb in every respect, this stands quite near the apex of the grading pyramid, with just one finer certified by NGC and fewer than a dozen equally. A splendid coin that is highly recommended.

The New Rochelle half dollar was conceived and sold by numismatists, the brain child of the Westchester County (New York) Coin Club, although distributed through a bank. The entire procedure was handled carefully from beginning to end, with due care given to distribution to coin collectors and others, without a single abuse or irregularity in the scenario.



1121 **1938 New Rochelle. MS-65 PL.** A *fully prooflike* gem, such pieces occurring now and then among New Rochelle half dollars, and worthy of special notice. We imagine that it is only a matter of

time until one or the other of the certification services latches on to this well-known possibility, and starts certifying them as, for example, 1938 New Rochelle DPL (deep prooflike), or whatever.

The present piece is very beautiful and represents an opportunity to acquire an exquisite example of this variety.

Superb Gem 1937-D Oregon Trail



1122 1937-D Oregon Trail. MS-68 (NGC). Mottled light gray and iridescent toning over richly lustrous surfaces. Exceptionally high certified grade, none graded finer by NGC, although kept company at this level by others. A centerpiece for anyone interested in iridescent toning.

Unbelievably Colorful 1939 Oregon Trail 50¢

Gem Mint State



1123 1939 Oregon Trail. MS-66 (PCGS). An incredible and colorfully toned gem Uncirculated 1939 Oregon Trail half dollar of the sort that currently "drives 'em wild"—the present numismatic marketplace is a hotbed of competition whenever a beautifully toned coin of virtually any denomination is offered! A wealth of robust underlying lustre feeds the fires of the toning that completely engages both sides. A touch of mint brilliance is seen at the center of the obverse, but there the brilliance ends. Deep and vibrant iridescent shades of purple, crimson, orange, and gold gather in visual splendor in every nook and cranny of James Earle and Laura Gardin Fraser's design. The reverse is alive with deep and even crimson, electric orange, and vivid deep gold, with a panorama of other electric hues too numerous to mention. Lest we dwell too long on the aesthetics of the present beauty, we mention here that just 3,004 examples of the date were sold, making for the lowest mintage in the Oregon Trail half dollar issues, a series that saw intermittent coinage and distribution from 1926 through 1939. A truly impressive gem in all regards.

Each of the lots from 1123 through 1125 will be sold on a provisional basis. After Lot 1125 is sold provisionally, the total for lots 1123 through 1125 will be computed, 5% will be added to the total, and this will constitute the opening bid for Lot 1126. If the opening bid is met or exceeded, the provisional awards for Lots 1123 through 1125 will be canceled. If it is not met or exceeded, then the lots will be sold at the provisionally awarded prices.

Gem Uncirculated 1939-D Oregon Trail 50¢

Vivid Rainbow Toning



1124 1939-D Oregon Trail. MS-66 (PCGS). The second of three 1939 Oregon Trail half dollars offered, this dazzling beauty from the Denver Mint is one of only 3,004 examples of the issue sold, a low-mintage figure matched only by the Philadelphia issue (see the preceding lot) within the Oregon Trail series (1926-1939). Incredible bursts of gold, crimson, blue, violet, and orange explode into fiery life on the lustrous obverse, while the reverse is a broadly sweeping expanse of mingled crimson, violet, rose, and gold, with a dash here and there of electric blue. No doubt from an original set kept together all these years—the consecutively numbered PCGS holders lend credence to the possibility. Simply superb!

Each of the lots from 1123 through 1125 will be sold on a provisional basis, as described in Lot 1123.

Impressive Gem 1939-S Oregon Trail 50¢

Fiery Rainbow Toning



1125 1939-S Oregon Trail. MS-66 (PCGS). The third of three superb gem Mint State 1939 Oregon Trail half dollars, this from the San Francisco Mint, and this with a distribution of 3,005 coins, one piece more than the 1939 Philadelphia and Denver issues. An explosive array of bright iridescent sea green, violet, crimson, gold, electric blue, and various other gorgeous highlights adorn the stunning obverse, while the reverse exhibits the same extraordinarily deep and vibrant toning highlights as its counterparts from the other mints. If we were limited to one single word for our description of these gem Mint State 1939-PDS Oregon Trail half dollars offered in this trio, we'd probably choose a word as simple as "Wow!"

Each of the lots from 1123 through 1125 will be sold on a provisional basis, as described in Lot 1123.

Superb Gem 1939 Oregon Trail PDS Set

1126 1939 Oregon Trail PDS set: As individually described in Lots 1123 through 1125 above. At this point in the sale, the provisional awards for Lots 1123 through 1125 will be totaled, 5% will be added, and this will constitute the opening bid for the current lot, Lot 1126. If this bid is met or exceeded, the provisional awards will be cancelled and the coins will be owned by the successful bidder on the present lot. (Total: 3 pieces)

Exquisite 1915-S Panama-Pacific Half Dollar



1127 1915-S Panama-Pacific. MS-66 (PCGS). A specimen of exquisite quality, this piece has "album toning" in a halo effect with magenta and gold at the centers, changing to gunmetal-blue at the borders. The fields are satiny and lustrous. Certainly this is one of the nicest to come on the market in recent times.

1128 1926 Sesquicentennial. MS-64 (PCGS). Light gold and blue toning over satiny surfaces. An exceptional example of this issue, quite worthwhile if you are seeking a specimen in MS-64.

The die relief of the 1926 Sesquicentennial half dollar and also the 1923-S Monroe Doctrine Centennial coin was very shallow, creating an unsatisfactory effect. Often, coins with dull surfaces can appear to be *worn*. There is no such thing as a sharp example of either variety, and most lack eye appeal. Within those parameters, the piece offered here is far nicer than typically encountered.



1129 1936-S Texas. MS-67 (NGC). Splendid lightly blended brown, magenta, and blue toning can be seen on the obverse, while the reverse is a combination of heather and silver. Commemorative coins with spectacular toning have been very popular in recent times, and to such specialists we strongly recommend this piece.

1130 Selection of Carver-Washington and Booker T. Washington commemoratives grade average MS-60 to MS-63. Carver-Washington: ☆ 1951 ☆ 1952 ☆ 1952-S ☆ 1953 ☆ 1953-S ☆ 1954 ☆ 1954-D ☆ 1954-S. Booker T. Washington: ☆ 1946 ☆ 1946-D ☆ 1946-S ☆ 1947 ☆ 1947-D ☆ 1947-S ☆ 1948 ☆ 1948-D ☆ 1948-S ☆ 1949 ☆ 1949-D ☆ 1949-S ☆ 1950 ☆ 1950-D ☆ 1950-S ☆ 1951. An attractive group that is mostly toned. (Total: 24 pieces)

Sandblast Proof 1925 Norse-American Medal

Ex John Sinnock Estate



1131 1925 Norse-American Centennial medal. Thick planchet. 297.6 grains. Sandblast Proof-63. Medium silver gray with some deeper highlights in the protected areas. A great rarity from a no doubt very small mintage of the type in the sandblast finish as offered here. In the August 1925 issue of *The Numismatist*, a brief notice appeared that stated the following: "Instead of the usual half dollar, a medal was authorized by congress to commemorate the arrival of the first shipload of Norse immigrants to America, the anniversary of which was recently celebrated in Minnesota. The obverse shows a full-length figure of a Norwegian Viking, with helmet, sword, and breastplate, a Viking ship in the background. Above 'Norse American Centennial.' The dates '1825' '1925' are separated by the standing figure. The reverse shows a Viking ship. Above 'Authorized by Congress of the United States of America.' Below 'A.D. 1000.' At left 'Opus Fraser.'"

The catalogue description from the Bowers and Merena sale further noted: "This piece is said by our consignor to have formerly belonged to the U.S. Mint engraver John R. Sinnock. Several other Proofs of a commemorative nature have been reported from his estate (see *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins 1722-1977* for details). Among these are the following: 1922 Grant half dollar with star, 1926 Sesquicentennial half dollar, 1934 Maryland Tercentenary half dollar, 1935 Connecticut Tercentenary half dollar, 1935 San Diego-Pacific Exposition half dollar, 1935 Old Spanish Trail half dollar, and 1938 New Rochelle half dollar. It is therefore not in the least surprising that a Proof Norse-American medal should originate from the same source. Although we have handled many great rarities over the years, we can not recall ever having sold a Sandblast Proof silver Norse American medal."

In 1988 the present writer was a member of the numismatic staff of Bowers and Merena (his career there spanning the years 1987-2003), at which time the present piece caused quite a stir as it went from numismatist to numismatist for opinions on grade and other matters. As with the medal's first appearance so long ago at Bowers and Merena, the present piece is also a first for us here at *American Numismatic Rarities*, as it is also the first time our firm has had the opportunity to present this amazing rarity to our bidders!

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Everson & Faught Collections, June 1988, Lot 2473.

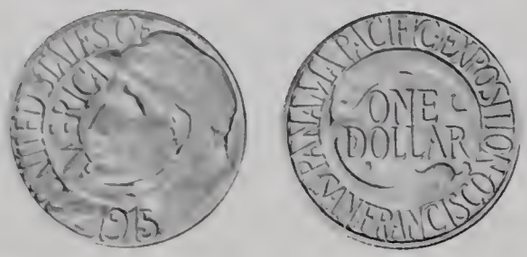
COMMEMORATIVE GOLD

All commemorative gold dollar photos are 1x.

Choice 1904 Lewis and Clark $1 Gold



1132 1904 Lewis and Clark gold dollar. MS-63 (PCGS). Light yellow gold. Prooflike character on both sides. The present piece is a "high end" example at the MS-64 level and is nicer than some we have seen in MS-65 grade. This present sale has attracted consignments from several connoisseurs, with the result that "high end" and *undergraded* coins (this being our opinion) are sprinkled throughout—just the opposite of what might be expected elsewhere in the market. Quality does make a difference, and that is an outstanding feature of this catalogue.



1133 **1915-S Panama-Pacific gold dollar. MS-64.** A brilliant, lustrous, and thoroughly satisfying example of this gold dollar, a piece that approaches true *gem* preservation or may actually be such. Not certified, and recently removed from an old-time cardboard holder, the present piece will be a little playground for those who examine the lot and determine whether it may or may not be certified MS-64, or MS-65, or even higher!

Superb Gem 1922 Grant $1 Gold

With Star



1134 **1922 Grant gold dollar. With Star. MS-66 (PCGS).** A superb specimen, *pristine* and never dipped to make it brighter. The surfaces are satiny in a rich yellow gold, best seen rather than described in print or even through an illustration. Among coins certified at the MS-66 level probably not one in 10 has the eye appeal of this.

Magnificent 1915-S $50 Gold

Round Format

Rarest Commemorative



(2x photo)

1135 **MCMXV-S (1915-S) Panama-Pacific Exposition $50 gold. Round. MS-65 (NGC).** A magnificent specimen of this classic issue, one of just 483 pieces distributed, resulting in the rarest of all regular commemoratives from 1892 to date. This example has the usual satiny lustrous surfaces of this variety, well preserved, and very attractive. For the commemorative specialist this is the *piece de resistance*.

With great expectations, Farran Zerbe, entrepreneur who had charge of the Panama-Pacific commemorative coins, arranged for 1,500 to be struck of each of the two highest values, the $50 gold in round and in octagonal format. These were offered for sale for $100 each at the exposition. Exactly what went wrong is difficult to know, but something did. Zerbe, a consummate politician and rather crafty in the things he did, and often generating large amounts of hyperbole (for detail see *The American Numismatic Association Centennial History, 1891-1991,* two volumes, by Q. David Bowers), was quite unpopular with some numismatists. Indeed, in the summer of 1915 the ANA convention held in San Francisco was expected to be one of the finest ever, what with combined numismatic camaraderie plus the appeal of attending the exposition itself and being the guests of Zerbe, who had a large display within the fair. However, the get-together was an unmitigated dud, with the poorest attendance of any ANA Convention before or since.

By the time the fair closed, there were still many unsold coins, and Zerbe came up with the idea of issuing full sets in glass-fronted hammered copper frames at $200 the set, a bit less than the individual coins had been sold for during the exposition. Additional pieces were sold in this manner. However, after all was counted, just 483 of the $50 round pieces found buyers. More than two thirds went to the melting pot.

MODERN COMMEMORATIVE

1136 1992-W Columbus $5 gold. Proof-69 (PCGS). Brilliant orange gold. Very attractive.

PRIVATE AND TERRITORIAL GOLD

Long a staple of U.S. numismatics, the collecting of "territorial" coins of the Gold Rush (both California, and later, Colorado) is as avidly pursued today as ever it was, and our offering brings to light many impressive pieces for your consideration. August Bechtler is represented here, along with a Mint State and completely prooflike Norris, Gregg & Norris $5, a choice AU-55 Miners' Bank $10, and no fewer than four $50 "slugs," three of 1851, and one of 1852. A pair of Clark, Gruber pieces, one of the $5, and another of the $10 denomination, are offered. A remarkable Justh & Hunter gold ingot from the *S.S. Central America* treasure is featured; it is serial # 9522, weight 19.34 ounces, a true numismatic treasure in, literally, every sense of the word!

Prooflike August Bechtler $1
None Graded Finer by PCGS



(2x photo)

1137 **A. Bechtler $1 gold. Kagin-24. Rarity-3. MS-63 (PCGS).** A lovely gold dollar struck by August Bechtler, at the privately operated family mint in Rutherford, North Carolina. The present piece is exquisitely struck and has prooflike surfaces on the obverse and reverse. It is certainly among the finest in existence of the variety and grade.

PCGS Population: 6; none finer.

Uncirculated 1849 Norris, Gregg & Norris $5



(2x photo)

1138 **1849 Norris, Gregg & Norris. $5 gold. K-2. Rarity-5. Plain edge. MS-62 (PCGS).** Bright prooflike yellow gold surfaces with distinctive olive highlights. Nicely struck with just a hint of weakness at the coin's high points; the "5" at the center of the shield on the eagle's breast is full and complete, an area that is often weak in many specimens. A decidedly attractive specimen of the issue that is generally conceded to be the first of the "territorial" gold issues out of the "Days of '49" and the California Gold Rush. Struck in Benicia City but marked San Francisco, the identities of N. G & N. (as found on the coin) were not known until 1902 when the collection of Augustus Humbert was sold—Humbert, of course, was there at the time and would have been familiar with the issues of his era. The present beauty is among the four finest examples of the type seen to date by PCGS.

PCGS Population: 3; 1 finer (MS-63).

Choice AU Miners' Bank $10



(2x photo)

1139 (1849) Miners' Bank. $10 gold. K-1. Rarity-6. Plain border. AU-55 (PCGS). A bright yellow example of this prized rarity, a lustrous coin that shows a wealth of rich olive highlights. Scattered light marks are seen, as should be expected from a gold coin that saw a modicum of circulation during the heady days of the California Gold Rush; none of the marks, however, deserve individual mention. Miners' Bank was the name used by Wright & Co., who did business at Portsmouth Square in San Francisco. Among the five finest examples of the type certified to date by PCGS, and a numismatic treat for an advanced specialist in California and other "territorial" issues.

PCGS Population: 4; 1 finer (MS-61).

High-Grade 1851 Humbert $50

MS-61 (NGC)



(2x photo)

1140 1851 Humbert $50 gold. K-5. Rarity-5-. 880 THOUS. MS-61 (NGC). Rich yellow gold with much remaining lustre. Only a few scattered contact points are seen, far fewer than usually encountered. The sharpness is also above average, though the central obverse is a bit weakly struck, and this piece appears finer than the Kagin plate coin. No heavy rim nicks or other damage. Demand is high for $50 slugs this nice, and most collectors end up settling for a piece of far lower quality than here offered. A fine addition to any advanced cabinet of pioneer gold or American rarities.

NGC Census: 4; 3 finer (MS-63 finest).

Lustrous Mint State 1851 Humbert $50 "Slug"

800 THOUS., Reeded Edge



(2x photo)

1141 1851 Humbert $50 gold. K-5. Rarity-5-. 880 THOUS. Reeded edge. MS-60 (NGC). Deep and lustrous yellow gold with warm honey and faint orange highlights. Lightly marked and faintly struck in places, as is typical for this large gold "slug" issue, but free of other signs of obvious circulation. Indeed, if "choice" can be applied to describe a coin at the MS-60 level, then the present coin wears the "choice" mantle well!

NGC Census: 1; 8 finer (MS-63 finest).

Popular 1851 Humbert Slug

Reverse of 1852



(2x photo)

1142 1851 Humbert $50 gold. K-7. Rarity-7. 887 THOUS, Reverse of 1852. EF-45 (PCGS). Attractive light yellow gold with some iridescent toning and splashes of darker color. A sharp specimen of this workhorse coin of the California Gold Rush, showing a bit of roughness at peripheries but none of the heavy digs that plague this issue. Some scattered light marks are seen and a few hairlines are noted near the date. Struck from the elusive reverse of 1852, called Rarity-7 by Kagin and discernible from the shape of the "bull's-eye" at center. One of the most popular issues in American numismatics, here offered in a very collectible grade.

Mint State 1852 U.S. Assay Office $10



(2x photo)

1143 1852 U.S. Assay Office. $10 gold. K-12a. Rarity-5. 884 THOUS. MS-62 (NGC). A sparkling deep orange gold specimen with intense crimson and violet iridescence in the peripheral regions. Nicely struck for the issue, with essentially full plumage on our national mascot. Among the top half dozen examples of the type certified by NGC, and worthy of serious pursuit from interested bidders as a result.

NGC Census: 4; 2 finer (MS-64 finest)

The United States Assay Office of Gold was operated by the partnership of Curtis, Perry & Ward, which also conducted Moffat and Company, private coiners. The U.S.A.O.G. produced coins under special arrangement with the Treasury Department, being in effect a government mint, but without the portfolio. In 1853 the facilities were purchased by the Treasury Department, and in March 1854 the building, somewhat expanded, was opened as the San Francisco Mint.

Lustrous 1852 USAOG $50 Slug



(2x photo)

1144 1852 U.S. Assay Office $50 gold. K-13. Rarity-5. 887 THOUS. AU-58 (NGC). Lively light yellow gold with abundant lustre in protected areas. Many scattered marks are seen, as usual for this issue that saw active circulation in the opening of the West. Good detail, dig under U of UNITED, superb aesthetic appeal. A classic issue that every collector and non-collector enjoys holding and pondering.

NGC Census: 7; 4 finer (MS-62 finest).

Lustrous Mint State 1853 Assay Office $20 Gold



1145 **1853 U.S. Assay Office $20 gold. K-18. Rarity-2. 900 THOUS. AU-50 (PCGS).** A lustrous example of this popular $20 piece produced by the United States Assay Office of Gold, San Francisco, one of the relatively few varieties of Gold Rush coinage that can be obtained in Mint State today. The production of these was very large, and for the next several years these were a staple in commerce, as reflected by related issues being included in the treasure found from the *S.S. Central America* lost at sea in 1857.

Lustrous 1854 Kellogg & Co. Double Eagle



(2x photo)

1146 **1854 Kellogg & Co. $20 gold. K-2. Rarity-4. MS-61 (PCGS).** Bright yellow gold with some honey highlights and a broad expanse of lustre in the protected regions. A pleasing Mint State example of this popular double eagle issue from Kellogg & Co., a design styled unmistakably after the then-new federal double eagles of the era. Just three 1854 Kellogg & Co. double eagles have been graded finer than the present piece by NGC. Choice and appealing for the assigned grade; the reverse appears to be moderately finer than the obverse.

PCGS Population: 4; 3 finer (MS-63 finest).

Uncirculated 1860 Clark, Gruber & Co. $5

"Pikes Peak Gold Denver"



(2x photo)

1147 **1860 Clark, Gruber & Co. $5 gold. K-2. Rarity-4. MS-61 (PCGS).** Bright and attractive yellow gold with substantial lustre, a nuance of bright olive iridescence, and some prooflike reflectivity in the protected areas. Choice for the assigned grade, free of major marks, and with clearly unbroken lustre on the design high points. A popular issue from the days of Colorado's gold rush—perhaps not as broadly studied or appreciated by today's citizens, but important nonetheless to today's numismatic community!

Splendid 1861 Clark, Gruber $10

Exceptional Eye Appeal



(2x photo)

1148 **1861 Clark, Gruber & Co. $10 gold. K-7. Rarity-4. AU-53 (PCGS).** The coinage of Clark, Gruber, and Co., Denver, 1860-1861, has long fascinated and attracted numismatists. Today these are evocative of the rush for gold that took place in the late 1850s, continuing for a short time in the 1860s. Placer gold was found near the foothills of the Front Range in the area of what later became Denver. Soon, strikes were made in the mountains nearby, in communities such as Black Hawk and Central City, today still standing and popular as tourist attractions. Clark, Gruber and Co., bankers from Leavenworth, Kansas, established a branch in Denver in 1860 and soon a mint and bank were in operation. Coins from the denominations of $2.50 to $20 were produced in both years. The maker of the dies is unknown, but is presumed to have been in the East.

The present coin combines the worthwhile grade of AU-53 and, in addition, has exceptional eye appeal, remarkably so. We have handled more than our share of these pieces, and can say this with some authority. The specialist will enjoy owning this piece.

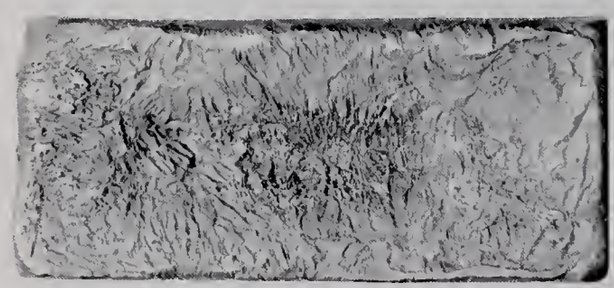
PCGS Population: 7; 28 finer (MS-61 finest).

Important Justh & Hunter "Marysville" Gold Ingot

Smallest Ingot from this City

S.S. Central America Treasure





1149 **Justh & Hunter gold ingot from the S.S. Central America. Serial 9522. 19.34 ounces. 891 fine. Value in 1857 stamped as $356.21. Attributed to the Marysville office. Horizontally oriented. Serial number, firm name, weight, and fineness imprinted on face. Smallest of only 24 ingots from the Marysville office.** The writer had the pleasure of cataloguing this particular ingot for Christie's sale of selected items from the *S.S. Central America*, December 2000, where it was offered as Lot 107.

Quite a few people have endeavored to collect a "type set" of the fabulous ingots from the *S.S. Central America*. Each month, each year, the availability is less and less as pieces become more widely dispersed and are tightly held. Today opportunities exist that may have no counterparts a decade hence. Even so, the vast majority of the ingots are tightly held, and it is likely that some will not reappear in our lifetime. In a way we are all fortunate to have been present when this fabulous treasure was marketed. The memories still echo.

Marysville ingots are exceedingly important, represented by only two dozen Justh & Hunter bars and a single example from Harris, Marchand, & Co., with the others from the 85 Justh & Hunter firm being from San Francisco. The present piece is attractive, rare, and desirable and will be a treasure for many years to come. Characteristics of the ingots attributed to each office are delineated in detail in the writer's *A Californial Gold Rush History*.

Justh & Hunter Ingot Characteristics

San Francisco vis-à-vis Marysville

Salient differences for most ingots (see *A California Gold Rush History* for exceptions):

Serial number: San Francisco: 4,000 series • Marysville: 9,000 series

Edge chip for assay: San Francisco: Space in truncation is blank. • Marysville: Typically with truncation stamped J&H.

Orientation of imprints: San Francisco: Vertical and horizontal (the latter typical for larger ingots) • Marysville: Always horizontal.

JUSTH & HUNTER imprint: San Francisco: Single impression only • Marysville: Smaller ingots with single impression, larger ingots with logotype

stamped twice (in the general style of the only known Harris, Marchand & Co. gold ingot attributed to Marysville).

Peculiarities: San Francisco: Digit 1 perfect • Marysville: Digit 1 with lower right serif missing • San Francisco: Period used after serial number and in weight and value is large with raised dot in center • Marysville: Period is smaller and without center dot

The Firm of Justh & Hunter, Assayers

From *A California Gold Rush History*

Emil Justh

Emanuel ("Emil") Justh, a lithographer from Verboca, Hungary, fled the revolution of 1848-49. Departing on May 18, 1850, from Hamburg, Germany, aboard the Gellert, he arrived in San Francisco on November 14, after a voyage that was direct express except for a stop at Valparaiso.

Within a few months he had set up a lithography business. A May 9, 1851, notice in *Alta California* informed readers of the operation: "Lithographic Printing Office. Justh & Co., on Broadway, between Dupont and Stockton streets. Justh, Quirot & Co." Among the images he published were memorable scenes of San Francisco and California.

For several weeks, from June 3, 1852, until June 30, Justh was a partner in a customs-house brokerage with F.I. Goerlitz, trading as F.I. Goerlitz & Co. From April 1854 to May 1855 he served as assistant assayer at the newly opened San Francisco Mint.

S.H. Hunter

Solomon Hillen Hunter, a Maryland native and merchant in the shipping trade in Baltimore, came to California aboard the S.S. *George Law,* leaving New York City on February 5, 1855, arriving at Aspinwall on the 15th, in time to witness part of the inaugural ceremonies for the Panama Railroad, delaying for one hour what usually was a three-hour trip, then continuing on February 16th on the *S.S. Sonora,* Captain R.L. Whiting, to San Francisco, arriving on March 2. Aboard for the 13-day, 4-1/2 hour voyage were 433 passengers (303 adult males, 86 adult females, and 44 children). Of the travelers, 272 were in steerage, the balance in finer accommodations.

Both the *Sonora* and the *George Law* were usually laden with gold bars and coins on their trips connecting to the East, while on the westward run they transported much freight and baggage, including on this particular trip, consignments of goods that had been placed with Adams & Co. and Wells, Fargo & Co., mail from New York postmarked February 5, and mail from Europe dated up to January 20. The railroad connection at Panama was faster on the way to California than back, as on the return trip there were considerable delays involving the checking and security of the gold treasure.

Justh & Hunter's Assay Office

On May 15, 1855, the *Alta California* printed this:

E. Justh (late of the U.S. Mint, S.F.) S. Hillen Hunter.

Justh & Hunter's Assay Office

No. 188 Montgomery Street (Second door South of Jackson St.)

We guarantee our assays, and bind ourselves to pay all differences arising from the same with any of the U.S. Mints. Returns made in 24 hours. Quartz and ores of every description assayed at short notice.

We refer to the annexed certificate.

Justh & Hunter.

We hereby certify that Mr. E. Justh was Assistant Assayer in the U.S. Branch Mint, from April 1854, to this date, during which time he performed his duties most faithfully and intelligently, and we take great pleasure in recommending him to the public as a competent and faithful assayer.

A. HARASZTHY U.S. Assayer

LOUIS AIKEN BIRDSALL, Sup't U.S. Branch Mint.

San Francisco, May 10, 1855.

Business commenced on May 15.

In autumn 1856 the San Francisco headquarters office was moved from 188 Montgomery to 108 Battery Street. Business continued to be excellent, and millions of dollars' worth of gold was assayed and formed into bars.

Marysville Office

In May 1856, Justh & Hunter opened a branch assay office in Marysville, with S.H. Hunter in charge. *The Marysville Herald,* May 31, 1856, included this:

ASSAY OFFICE!

JUSTH & HUNTER, ASSAYERS OF GOLD & ORES! Of Every Description,

1st St., 3d door from D,

MARYSVILLE.

Returns Made Within Twelve Hours! For the convenience of our customers in the interior, we have established a Branch of our ASSAY OFFICE in this City. The reputation of our Bars being well established in San Francisco and New York, they can always be cashed on the most advantageous terms.

In Marysville the assay office of Justh & Hunter was located in a one-story brick building, 20 by 70 feet, built in 1854 on the south side of First Street near D Street, owned by John A. Paxton and valued at $4,000. Neighboring businesses included the crockery store of Joseph Genella ("Sign of the 'Big White Pitcher'"), auctioneer H. Barnett, the clothing store of Hochstadter & Brother, and A. D'Artenay's Saloon.

Additional notes: Surfaces often irregular, particularly on the reverse. Alignment and spacing of numerals is generally excellent at both offices (San Francisco and Marysville). Assay chip from corner is typical; the truncated corner on Marysville ingots is typically marked with the initials of the firm. Some ingots from San Francisco (but not Marysville) have part of the serial number, the last two digits, repeated on the reverse.

From Christie's Sale of Gold Rush Treasures from the S.S. Central America, December 2001, Lot 107.

1150 *S.S. Central America* gold pinch, 1.5 grams (PCGS). Little group of gold flakes or "dust," nicely encapsulated by PCGS, attributed to the *S.S. Central America*—and probably one of the best uses we have ever seen of a "slab"—these little particles can be seen nicely and, if shaken about in the manner of a kaleidoscope, different aspects come into view.

Legend has it that a "pinch" of gold dust was the amount of raw gold flakes a barkeeper or other merchant could "pinch" between his or her thumb and index finger. This measure of value was reportedly commonplace in Gold Rush commerce owing to the lack of circulating "small change" in the region. We suspect that many large "barkeeps" were hired solely for their ability to "pinch" larger amounts of raw gold dust than a person of smaller stature.

1151 *S.S. Central America* nuggets. 1.5 grams (PCGS). Little group of nuggets, by count four of them, each quite attractive and appealing, visible within a PCGS holder.

CALIFORNIA SMALL DENOMINATION GOLD

All California Small Denomination gold photos are 2x.

1152 1854 Liberty Head. Octagonal 25c. BG-105. Rarity-3. MS-61 (PCGS). Deep golden surfaces show nice underlying lustre and some olive toning. A popular Period I design type.

Die State I: Top of Liberty's hair touches back of coronet; the die was later polished and a large gap appeared in the design behind the coronet.

1153 Pair of 1854 California small denomination gold, certified by PCGS: ☆ 1854 Liberty Head Octagonal 25c. BG-105. Rarity-3. AU-58 ☆ 1854-N Liberty Head Octagonal 50c. BG-308. Rarity-4. AU-55. These pieces were produced early in the scenario of small denomination California gold. (Total: 2 pieces)

Recently through the editorial supervision of Bob Leonard, in combination with a dynamic group of specialists and dealers, the Breen-Gillio book was

vastly expanded and improved, creating a reference that stands high in its quality today. The history of these little pieces is mostly gathered from scraps of information here and there, with not much in the way of original documentation. Newspaper clippings and mentions in California Gold Rush correspondence are few and far between, although more have come to light in recent decades than any earlier time. Some court cases and actions are also recorded, particularly after the Coinage Act of 1864 made private minting of denominated tokens illegal (not that everyone paid attention).



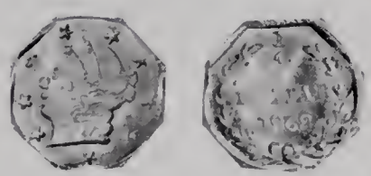
1154 Undated (1853) Round 25¢. BG-206. Rarity-4+. AU-58 (PCGS). A nice example of the issue, tracing its pedigree to the collection of Harry W. Bass, Jr. Well struck for the issue, and of nice appearance. Warm rich yellow gold surfaces.

From Bowers and Merena's sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, Part I, May 1999, Lot 2570.

1155 1855 Liberty Head. Round 25¢. BG-432. Rarity-5. AU-50. Lustrous yellow gold with distinctive olive highlights. Struck from a shattered reverse die. One of the scarce Large Head varieties.



1156 1855-NR Octagonal $1. BG-533. Rarity-4-. AU-58 (PCGS). Medium toned orange-red surfaces. Well struck at the centers, and on a problem-free planchet. The motifs are of course a bit rustic, a numismatic equivalent of folk art. The reverse die has been relapped, resulting in certain of the botanic features being isolated as "islands" in the field. A popular issue by N.R. (Nouizellet and Rothier), signed on the reverse.



1157 1868 Liberty Head. Octagonal 25¢. BG-711. Rarity-4. MS-66 (PCGS). Deep olive gold with intense lustre and a bold strike. Finer than Roe:152, and a beauty to behold—any California Small Denomination piece that can stake a claim to "finer than Roe" is a remarkable coin indeed!



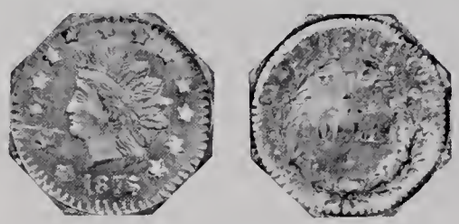
1158 1874 Indian Head. Round 25¢. BG-875. Rarity-4+. MS-63 (PCGS). A sparkling beauty of the finest order, especially so within the confines of the assigned grade. Deep yellow gold with olive highlights and a wealth of prooflike reflectivity on the surfaces. Struck from heavily clashed dies.



1159 1875 Indian Head. Round 25¢. BG-878. Rarity-3. MS-64 (PCGS). A deeply prooflike specimen that may just as well be called gem, as it is as fine as anyone is ever likely to see at the MS-64 level. Bright olive gold with a generous measure of eye appeal.

Die State II: Obverse now shattered with several cracks, including a prominent display across the Indian's cheek.

Choice Mint State 1876/5 Indian Head $1



1160 1876/5 Indian Head. Octagonal $1. BG-1129. Rarity-4. MS-63 (PCGS). A highly prooflike specimen with deep yellow gold surfaces that display rich olive iridescence. Variety with 5 in date crudely altered by hand by maker. Surely as fine as a Mint State-63 coin comes, and a grand addition to any collection as such.

Die State I: No sign of clash marks.

PATTERN COINS

As always, our current sale is awash with an incredible array of patterns, some rare, some not as rare, but all enticing in their beauty and charming as the "coins that never were." Highlights include an annular cent of 1850, J-124, Low Rarity-7, and a rare 1871 pattern "trime" in copper, J-1047, High Rarity-7. Other highlights are a Proof-63 J-247 pattern 1859 half dollar, design laid at the feet of Anthony Paquet, and designated High Rarity-7. Other rarities include a gem Proof-66 RB 1877 J-1502 pattern "Sailor Head" half dollar, and a prominent rarity that will appeal to pattern specialists and "mainstream" collectors alike, a gem Proof-65 J-1992 pattern Walking Liberty half dollar! Not to be outdone by the lower denominations, pattern dollars include a lovely gem Proof-66 RB J-1468 1876 trade dollar obverse/silver dollar reverse from the celebrated Bass Collection, and a specimen of J-1283 in Proof-66 RB, the popular and rare trade dollar pattern by Bailly. Other highlights among the higher denominations include an 1852 annular gold dollar in gold, J-145, Proof-66, as well as an 1875 "Sailor Head" $5 pattern in copper, Proof-67 RB! To reiterate a timeworn old saw, there is probably something for everyone here, no matter whether your interest in patterns is casual or serious.

Gem 1850 J-124 Cent



(2x photo)

1161 **1850 pattern cent. Annular. Judd-124, Pollock-139. Rarity-7-. Proof-64 (PCGS).** Copper-nickel. Plain edge. A lovely specimen from the standpoint of eye appeal as well as high grade, this piece could certainly be certified a couple of notches higher. If so, it would be the finest graded. Check it out and see if you agree.

Both obverse and reverse are lightly toned. Some die cracks are seen on the obverse, characteristic of all. A restrike probably made no earlier than 1859.

PCGS Population: 5; none finer.

Interesting 1853 Pattern Cent
Judd-151



(2x photo)

1162 **1853 pattern cent. Quarter eagle obverse. J-151, P-178. Rarity-6-. Proof-64 (PCGS).** German silver. Plain edge. One of the more interesting patterns of this era, the present piece combines the obverse from a *regular quarter eagle of the year,* with a hastily contrived reverse, a wreath enclosing the words ONE/CENT, but too widely spaced to be artistic. Although this and all others are designated as Proofs, the dies were not polished, and a better designation would be Mint State. The intent was to quickly create a die pair to show what a small diameter cent would look like, struck in German silver. At the time German silver was all the rage, and had been popular in many circles since the 1830s, at which earlier time Dr. Lewis Feuchtwanger was its main proponent. While the alloy is called German silver today, in the 1830s Feuchtwanger called it American silver and, alternatively, Feuchtwanger's composition.

Accompanied by an Eagle Eye Photo Seal Certificate.

PCGS Population: 11; 2 finer (Proof-65 finest).



1163 **1854 pattern cent. Liberty Head. J-160, P-187. Rarity-4. Proof-63 BN (NGC).** Copper. Plain edge. This features the head of Miss Liberty from the hub used on the regular cent of the year, but here with a smaller diameter die without stars. The date is below the portrait. The reverse is similar in concept to the regular issue but differently arranged with smaller letters and a much smaller wreath. One of the many patterns that led to the adoption on February 21, 1857, of the Flying Eagle cent.

1854 Flying Eagle Pattern Cent
Judd-163



1164 **1854 pattern cent. Flying Eagle. J-163, P-189. Rarity-6+. Proof-64 BN (PCGS).** Copper. Plain edge. Rich leather brown and gunmetal-blue surfaces. Sharply struck. A lovely example of the first year that the Flying Eagle motif, by Christian Gobrecht, was used on a pattern cent. In this instance the bird was adopted by Chief Engraver James B. Longacre from Gobrecht's pattern *half dollar* of 1838, the eagle differing in some respects from that used on the 1836 dollar and, later, on the 1856 Flying Eagle cent. Patterns of similar configuration were also made in 1854, part of a continuing experimentation to reduce the weight of the copper cent.

Accompanied by an Eagle Eye Photo Seal Certificate.

PCGS Population: 2; 2 finer within the designation (Proof-65 BN finest).

Splendid 1858 Indian Head Pattern 1¢
Judd-213



1165 **1858 pattern cent. Indian Head obverse, regular reverse. J-213, P-251. Rarity-5. Proof-63 (PCGS).** Copper-nickel. Plain edge. A splendid specimen, with rich gold surfaces, of one of the most popular varieties of the year. The dies show some striae from the die preparation process, on the Indian's cheek there are some parallel *planchet preparation* lines. The obverse depicts the Indian Head motif by Longacre, a pattern that was translated into the regular design the year following. There are several different dies, this one characterized by having a very low date. The reverse is the well known "agricultural" wreath used on contemporary circulating Flying Eagle cents (adapted from Longacre's own gold dollar and $3 of 1854).

Accompanied by an Eagle Eye Photo Seal Certificate.



1166 **1863 pattern cent. Indian Head. J-299, P-359. Rarity-3. Proof-62 BN (NGC)** Bronze. Plain edge. Deep brown surfaces, somewhat cloudy. Obverse and reverse dies oriented in the same

direction, rather than 180° apart, typical for this particular variety. This is one of the most famous of all Indian cents, a transitional pattern that led to the development of the bronze format for the regular series.

It is likely that many, possibly the majority, of J-299 coins were issued with surfaces bronzed at the Mint (already given a brown color).

Splendid 1868 Liberty Head Pattern 1¢

Judd-605



(2x photo)

1167 **1868 pattern cent. Liberty Head. J-605, P-670. Rarity-5. Proof-65 Cameo (PCGS).** Nickel. Plain edge. A splendid pattern, one of a suite of three denominations, all of the same configuration, part of an effort to standardize the coinage. The obverse depicts the head of Miss Liberty with a coronet, similar to that used on the contemporary circulating nickel three-cent piece. The reverse bears the Roman numeral I within an agricultural wreath. Longacre did not have to do much work to create this, but simply copied motifs taken from elsewhere. Related three-cent and nickel five-cent patterns were also produced, forming a set quite popular with collectors. The present coin is sharply struck and has superb eye appeal. Indeed, it is one of the nicest we have seen.

Accompanied by an Eagle Eye Photo Seal Certificate.

PCGS Population: 9; 1 finer (Proof-66).

1868 Liberty Head Pattern Cent

Judd-608



(2x photo)

1168 **1868 pattern cent. Liberty Head. J-608, P-673. Rarity-4. Proof-65 Cameo (NGC).** Nickel. Plain edge. A variation on the preceding theme, this was also part of the three-denomination experimentation. An attractive example with light iridescent toning.

Accompanied by an Eagle Eye Photo Seal Certificate.

NGC Census: 1; 4 finer within the designation (Proof-68 Cameo finest).

1863 Pattern Two Cents

GOD OUR TRUST



1169 **1863 pattern two-cent piece. GOD OUR TRUST. J-312, P-377. Rarity-4. Proof-64 BN (NGC).** Bronze. Plain edge. Iridescent toning with some lavender. Sharply struck. With variant motto GOD OUR TRUST, one of the popular phrases under consideration at this time. The obverse is of the Shield design similar to that adopted. The reverse is somewhat similar to the adopted design, but with the word CENTS much more curved.

Rare 1871 Pattern Trime in Copper

J-1047, High Rarity-7



(2x photo)

1170 **1871 pattern three cents. J-1047, P-1181. Rarity- 7+. Proof-63 RB (PCGS).** Copper. Plain edge. A striking in copper from the regular Proof dies of this year, a delicacy for numismatists. Brown toned surfaces with some magenta. A few gray flecks here and there. An extremely rare little pattern.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer (Proof-64 finest).

1873 Half Dime in Copper



(2x photo)

1171 **1873 pattern half dime. Liberty Seated. J-1266, P-1408. Rarity-7+. Proof-62 RB (PCGS).** Copper. Reeded edge. A striking from the regular Proof dies in copper, rather than silver. Somewhat mottled orange-brown surfaces. A numismatic delicacy. The year 1873 is of particular numismatic interest to many. Likely, the acquisition of this piece will fill a long-held desire. Saul Teichman indicates that fewer than four examples have been confirmed.

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (Proof-63).

Gem 1867 Liberty Seated Pattern Dime

J-587, Copper



(2x photo)

1172 **1867 pattern dime. Liberty Seated. J-587, P-652. Rarity-7-. Proof-65 RB (NGC).** Copper. Reeded edge. Striking from the Proof dies, but in copper rather than silver, a numismatic delicacy then and now. Attractive surfaces combine bright mint orange with natural toning. Rare and seldom offered for sale. A complete 1867 Proof set in copper was included in Stack's 1976 Garrett sale; we recently sold the copper $20 from that set in our November 2004 sale.

Condition Census 1870 J-840 Dime

Standard Silver Pattern in Copper



(2x photo)

1173 **1870 pattern dime. Standard Silver. J-840, P-931. Rarity-7+. Proof-64 BN (PCGS).** Copper. Plain edge. One of the finest graded of this popular issue, a copper striking of one of the Standard Silver denominations. Medium brown surfaces, well struck, with splashes of original mint color visible on the reverse, intermixed with electric blue.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer within the designation.

Little Gem 1870 J-866 Pattern

Standard Silver in Aluminum



(2x photo)

1174 **1870 pattern dime. Standard Silver. J-866, P-955. Rarity-7+. Proof-66 Cameo (PCGS).** Aluminum. Plain edge. A little gem, bright and sparkling, nicely struck, and epitomizing what an aluminum pattern should be, but often is not. Quality and eye appeal come to the fore, no doubt resulting in strong competition.

The dies for the Standard Silver patterns were often incompletely finished. On the present piece the obverse shows some pebbly effects and some raised die lines, characteristic of all known pieces, while the reverse die has been finished to a deep mirrorlike quality.

Choice 1838 Liberty Head Pattern 50¢

Judd-72



(2x photo)

1175 **1838 pattern half dollar. Liberty Head. J-72, P-75. Rarity-5. Proof-63 (PCGS).** Silver. Reeded edge. Medal or 360° die alignment. Fanciful bust of Liberty to left, radiant sunburst on her tiara, LIBERTY on broad ribbon in her hair, toga clasp at shoulder, hair curls around shoulder and across truncation, tiny center dot on neck. Reverse with perched eagle, olive branches and arrows in claws. A steel gray beauty with soft underlying lustre and warm golden iridescence in abundance. This lovely design was attributed to William Kneass by James Ross Snowden in the 19th century, though the *uspatterns.com* website notes: "this was probably executed by Christian Gobrecht." (To the present writer the style smacks of Gobrecht.) J-72 is found in "original" and "restrike" format, the difference generally depending on weight; the present coin is encapsulated and hence its weight is unknown to us (see below). A sharp and appealing coin, with even the tiniest details crisp and sharp. Absolutely choice for the grade.

Regarding the "original" and "restrike" status of Judd-72, Andrew Pollock's pattern reference notes that "originals" are thought to be products of 1838 owing to their weight which corresponds to the heavier half dollar coinage prior to February 21, 1853, while the "restrikes" are generally of weights that correspond to the circulating half dollars of February 21, 1853 and later.

Splendid Pattern 1859 Half Dollar

French Liberty Head



(2x photo)

1176 1859 pattern half dollar. French Liberty Head. J-240b, P-296. Rarity-Unique. Proof-64 BN (PCGS). Copper. Plain edge. A nice example of J.B. Longacre's depiction of Miss Liberty, inspired by a statue, referred to in older numismatic literature as the French Liberty Head. Anyone doubting Longacre's ability as a die engraver needs but examine the die details on this coin—they are exquisite. However, we are not quite sure why Miss Liberty is wearing a headdress composed of grape (?) and oak leaves, the latter complete with a prominent acorn. To the left and right are found UNITED STATES/OF AMERICA, in the heavy vertical element letters that are traditionally attributed to Anthony C. Paquet, an assistant engraver at the Mint. The date also has its own style, as do the numerals in most other denominations this particular year.

The reverse is the so-called cereal wreath, again with some interesting leaves that are not necessarily edible, including oak and maple (or grape?).

1859 Liberty Seated Half Dollar

Paquet's J-247



(2x photo)

1177 1859 pattern half dollar. Liberty Seated. J-247, P-286. Rarity-7+. Proof-63 (PCGS). Silver. Reeded edge. Anthony C. Paquet's design featuring Miss Liberty, seated on the obverse, her right hand outstretched to the top of a fasces, her left holding a shield. The depiction of Miss Liberty is rather ungainly, with her arms appearing thin, her left arm not fully fleshed out, and with her facial features not as attractive as on the standard issue by Christian Gobrecht. The reverse is of the popular "cereal" wreath, in this case enclosing HALF/DOLLAR, the wreath having been suggested by Harold T. Newlin. However, the contents of the wreath also seem to include maple leaves and oak leaves—artistic license.

PCGS Population: 1; 2 finer (Proof-64 finest).

1864 Transitional Pattern Half Dollar
With IN GOD WE TRUST
Struck in Nickel



(2x photo)

1178 1864 transitional pattern half dollar. J-394, P-462. Rarity-8. Proof-65 (PCGS). Nickel. Reeded edge. An incredible piece, struck in *nickel* instead of the usual silver or copper, and, as such, a rarity of landmark proportions. It may well be a generation or more, or even a lifetime, before a comparable opportunity recurs. Saul Teichman's research indicates that only two are known.

The present piece has a deep mirror Proof surface with delicate golden toning. Lightness of strike in the higher parts of the center, due to the hardness of the metal. Examples in nickel alloy were not made in significant numbers, perhaps just one or two of a given issue, and today not even the most advanced collections of patterns are apt to have a single example.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

In 1865 a set of transitional patterns in silver and copper was made, with the motto IN GOD WE TRUST on a ribbon above the eagle on the reverse, precursor of the motif that became standard in 1866. Afterward, but still in the same decade, it was decided to create related patterns with the dates of 1863 and 1864, this was done, resulting in full sets of three denominations of each of these becoming available on a private basis to those with Mint connections.

Superb Glittering Copper 1877 Pattern 50¢
"Sailor Head" by Barber



(2x photo)

1179 1877 pattern half dollar. "Sailor Head" by William Barber. J-1502, P-1055. Rarity-7-. Proof-66 RB (PCGS). Copper. Reeded edge. A superb gem, displaying a rich orange with splashes of iridescence, over mirror surfaces. The piece is at once rare, elegant, and beautiful. Many copper patterns of this era found their way into the collection of King Farouk, where they were polished, brightened, and lacquered. Today, it is common for these to come on the market, either still with that appearance or improved by toning. The number of *pristine* coins, is very small, as, the PCGS records indicate. No other has been certified at this level, and none higher.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer in any designation.

The design is one of several motifs created in 1877 at the request of Director Henry R. Linderman. Several artists participated in the design, most notably William Barber and George T. Morgan. Depicted here is Barber's so-called "Sailor Head" motif, best known for its appearance earlier on pattern twenty-cent pieces. Various obverse and reverse die combinations were made of the different motifs, and for most varieties there were strikings made in silver and copper. Today, *high quality* copper half dollars are significantly rarer than those in silver.

The distribution of these seems to have been a private matter involving those employed at the Mint. In the writer's, *The History of United States Coinage Illustrated by the Garrett Collection (1979)*, some correspondence on 1877 half dollars is reprinted in the appendix, exchanges with T. Harrison Garrett, Baltimore collector.

The possession of even a single pattern half dollar of the 1877 date is a badge of distinction for any advanced numismatist. The possession of this particular variety in the grade offered is a badge of distinction with extra ribbons attached!

From the J. Hewitt Judd Collection; Armand Champa; Bowers and Ruddy's sale of Armand Champa Collection, May 1972, Lot 1059; Rudy Sieck; Bowers and Ruddy's 1981 ANA Sale, July 1981, Lot 226; Teletrade's sale of March 1993.

Incredible Pattern 1916 Half Dollar
A Landmark Offering









1180 1916 pattern half dollar. Walking Liberty. J-1992, P-2053. Rarity-7-. Proof-65 (NGC). Silver. Reeded edge. A splendid specimen, an incredible coin, and certainly a highlight of the present catalogue. The piece is well struck with excellent detail, nice appearance overall, and is a delight to view. One must completely overlook this, for most half dollars of this year, rare as a class, are seen in significantly lower grades and with poor eye appeal. This coin is in high grade with great eye appeal. Remarkable!

The obverse and reverse differ in many respects from the adopted variety. On the obverse Miss Liberty is seen striding, similar to that adopted, but with the word LIBERTY in the right field rather than at the border, and with a large T (perhaps inspired by the popular style, widely known at the time, employed by the WurliTzer company, leading maker of automatic musical instruments, theatre organs, and other devices). On the reverse of the pattern the denomination is in an arc at the top, rather than on the bottom as per the regular issue. The bottom space is occupied by E PLURIBUS UNUM, which on the adopted issue is in the left field.

All silver patterns of the 1916 year range from very rare to extremely rare to impossible to find. The present coin is a delight, a center point to the present catalogue and will no doubt attract much attention when it crosses the block.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

Almost certainly the Morris Evans piece; Bowers and Merena's sale of August 1998, Lot 2100.

WURLITZER

Wurlitzer logo, as mentioned above, using a large T in the middle of the name, similar to the large T used in the word LiberTy on the Judd-1992 pattern half dollar offered in Lot 1180.

Superb Gem 1870 J-999 $1
Barber's Liberty Seated Design
Finest NGC Certified



(2x photo)

1181 1870 pattern dollar. Barber's Liberty Seated. J-999, P-1130. Rarity-7-. Proof-66 RB (NGC). Copper. Plain edge. A gem specimen with iridescent blue toning with splashes of magenta. Deep mirrored Proof fields. Well struck, and bespeaking quality in every aspect. Finest and only graded by NGC, at this level. A coin that is a "must have" for the pattern specialist with a generous budget.

The obverse depicts Miss Liberty in a seated position, perhaps inspired by Gobrecht, but translated by William Barber, whose artistic talents seem to have been modest at best. The piece is enjoyable to view under magnification, where we see a pole apparently about to fall over (it is not being held by Miss Liberty), at the top of which is a cap. The hand of the seated figure, widespread in the manner of a lobster about to grab a meal, seems to be holding the top of the shield while preventing a ribbon inscribed LIBERTY from slipping away. Her left hand shows four strong and somewhat pointed fingers and a thumb holding an olive branch the tip of which is downward. Stars surround and the date is below.

The reverse is the die for the Standard Silver series, this being a bright idea of the year before, 1869, at which time no silver coins were seen in regular circulation, nor had they been since spring 1862. Pieces continued to be hoarded. The thought at the Mint was to create a new series of silver, specifically noted as Standard Silver, to be of lighter weight than those currently authorized. The plan was to produce these in quantity, so that silver coins would again circulate, but would not be attractive to melt down as the bullion value would be less. At the time the place of such issues was taken by Fractional Currency paper, widely disliked by the general public (but loved by numismatists today!).

The Standard Silver pattern series developed into a vast playground for private Mint profit, as through the various denominations obverse and reverse designs were combined willy-nilly, often with strikings in silver, aluminum, and copper, and with plain or reeded edges, to create hundreds of different varieties for no particular purpose other than to attract numismatists. Regardless of the circumstance of birth—circumstances which could be related to quite a few other coins (such as commemorative half dollars, notably the Daniel Boone bicentennial series)—the result was coins that are highly collectible and widely desired by numismatists today. We can all be grateful for the shenanigans that went on in the Mint for a long time, mostly from spring 1859 through summer 1885. Without these, the Judd book on patterns would be a small monograph of just a few dozen pages, and those seeking patterns for their collections would not be able to buy many, as varieties would be few and far between, and mostly great rarities!

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

Splendid 1871 J-1150 Pattern $1

Indian Princess Design
Finest NGC Graded



(2x photo)

1182 1871 pattern dollar. "Indian Princess." J-1150, P-1292. Rarity-7+. Proof-66 Cameo (NGC) Aluminum. Plain edge. A superb specimen of the Indian Princess design, conceived by James B. Longacre, and issued posthumously (Longacre died on January 1, 1869). The coin is a superb gem, both sides brilliant, with excellent strike combined with great eye appeal—anything that the most discriminating buyer could hope for. A tiny mint-made inclusion is present beneath star 4.

This piece is the only example graded at the Proof-66 level by NGC, none finer. This aspect, plus the quality features noted above, will make this a magnet for specialists in the pattern field.

NGC Census: 1; none finer.

The obverse depicts Miss Liberty facing to the left, seated on a globe on which is a map, possibly of the New World, plus Africa, from the primordial era—the outlines not matching anything today (it seems that California, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and a big section of Mexico itself are not there). Miss Liberty is in the form of an Indian Princess, so called, with a headdress of *ostrich plumes* (which real Indians did not wear), the entire head being copied from the short-lived 1854 Type II gold dollar obverse. She is holding a sturdy pole on which is mounted a Liberty Cap. Behind her are two flags, one spangled with complete or partial stars numbering 20 or 21. Stars surround. The reverse is the regular die used on contemporary Liberty Seated silver dollars.

Wonderful 1876 J-1468 Pattern $1

From the Bass Collection
Trade Dollar-Silver Dollar Combination
Extremely Rare



(2x photo)

1183 1876 pattern trade dollar obverse with pattern silver dollar reverse. J-1468, P-1619. Rarity-7+. Proof-66 RB (NGC). Copper. Reeded edge. A lovely specimen, catalogued by the writer (QDB) for the Bass I Collection, Lot 1271, there described as:

The obverse depicts Miss Liberty seated at a seashore, with a sailing ship in the background, the present ship being of different configuration than that seen on P-1564, although the two motifs bear some superficial resemblance. On the present coin the smoke trails to the left, while the sails are all furled, showing just the masts and the rigging, but no cloth. Curiously, the smoke seems to come from the center or main mast (!), which has rigging. On the obverse of P-1564 the smokestack is separately delineated, is very high (nearly as high as the mast) and thick. Perhaps some thought should be given to a discussion on the *nautical* motifs on American coins—with observations that the engravers must not have been familiar with ships. On the present design the obverse is starless, giving a cameo-like effect to the design. The motto IN GOD WE TRUST is on a label above the date, with circles at each end of the label. Behind the globe the sheaf of wheat is abruptly truncated on the right, unlike the general motif used on P-1564 (and on which ground is present to the right of the sheaf).

The surfaces display a gorgeous mixture of mint red, electric blue, and rich brown, all against deep mirror fields.

This lovely gem combines many appeals. First of all, it is a numismatic curiosity. The obverse seems to have been intended for a *trade dollar,* made in a year in which serious discussion was being given to revamping the trade dollar motif (but in the same year no consideration at all was given to creating new silver dollars for circulation: dollar patterns are numismatic delicacies). The reverse is denomination ONE/DOLLAR. Thus, we have a trade dollar/silver dollar, take your pick. Beauty is another aspect of desirability—the coin is *gorgeous.* The quintessential aspect of the 1876 date comes into play, as coins dated this year are especially highly prized. Regarding rarity, only a handful exist in the entire numismatic world.

Indeed Saul Teichman lists only three specimens on uspatterns.com including one permanently impounded in the Connecticut State Library.

NGC Census: 1; none finer within the designation.

Purchased from A. Kosoff, August 19, 1972; Bowers and Merena's sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, May 1999, Lot 1271.

Splendid Goloid Metric Pattern $1

Judd-1627



1184 1879 pattern dollar. Goloid Metric. J-1627, P-1823. Rarity-5. Proof-63 (NGC). Silver. Reeded edge. A splendid specimen of the Goloid Metric design, of which more will be said. Brilliant obverse and reverse with a hint of heather toning. Deep mirrored fields. Quite attractive overall, indeed one of the nicest we have seen in some time.

From 1878 through 1880 many different varieties of dollars were produced. Quite a few of them were variations on the regular or standard theme, either leading up to what became the Morgan silver dollar (in March 1878) or endeavoring to improve upon it (the Schoolgirl and Society Lady a.k.a. Washlady dollars of 1879). Others involved the metric system, a popular concept of the time. Some readers may remember that in the 1970s, nearly a century after the present pattern was made, America would convert across the board to the metric system, and highway signs were put up with both English and metric versions. And then what happened we do not know. Somewhat similar to the Paperwork Reduction Act or the *temporary* Federal Income Tax, the playing out seems to have been a bit different than the intent!

In 1879 the "Silver Question" formed the dominant topic of political discussion. This would continue through the next decade and into the 1896 election, at which time the Presidential contest between McKinley and Bryan centered nearly entirely on the Silver Question, scarcely with anything else in view (in our last and most recent election the Iraq War took that position, and hardly anything was said about the position of the candidates on art, science, music, or other attributes of American life). An entrepreneur, Wheeler W. Hubbell, came up with the idea of the *Goloid Metric* metal, designed to satisfy both the proponents of gold (most Easterners) and the proponents of silver (Westerners) in the great Silver Question debate. The idea was that a dollar would contain equal *value* of gold and silver, plus copper added for strength. Thus, everyone would be pleased. The reverse die, illustrated here, shows the composition in parts by weight: 15.3 gold, 236.7 silver, and 28 copper, yielding a total weight of 14 grams, the latter being in the metric system. The motto DEO EST GLORIA was used, similar to that also employed on the $4 Stellas of the same year.

While Goloid Metric metal may have been a brilliant idea, in practice it had a major flaw: no one other than chemists in a scientific laboratory could tell whether a coin was struck in this metal or in silver. Accordingly, in theory such pieces could be easily counterfeited by making them in silver alone, leaving out the gold.

Gorgeous 1873 J-1283 Pattern
Trade Dollar by Bailly





(2x photo)

1185 1873 pattern trade dollar. By Bailly. J-1283, P-1425. Rarity-7-. Proof-66 RB (NGC). A lovely specimen of this variety, rich electric blue and magenta over mirrored copper surfaces, this describing the obverse. The reverse is a nice blend of rich copper and blue. The striking is exquisite. The obverse depicts Miss Liberty with sort of puckered lips, to paraphrase a description of Calvin Coolidge, perhaps looking as if she had been weaned on a pickle. Her hair is tight to her head, with some maple leaves or perhaps Virginia creeper running above her hairline. Stars surround and the date 1873 (with open 3) is seen below. The reverse is from the hand of William Barber and depicts an eagle firmly clutching a shield, somewhat similar to that found on his Amazonian pieces of 1872.

Pattern trade dollars are quite difficult to find in grades of Proof-65 or finer. For reasons unknown, more than just a few patterns across the series tend to be cleaned, damaged, or in lower grades. This pristine specimen should attract attention.

NGC Census: 2; none finer.

Important 1852 Pattern Gold Dollar
Annular or Ring Form
Incredible Quality



(2x photo)

1186 1852 pattern gold dollar. J-145, P-173. Rarity-6-. Proof-66 (NGC). Gold. Plain edge. The present specimen is virtual perfection for the issue, with nothing negative at all. Struck in gold, the metal of intent, this piece and its contemporaries were fashioned quickly to illustrate how a large-diameter would appear. Following the concept of Oriental coinage, a large hole at the center enabled a broader diameter overall, while retaining the same amount of gold. Recently the writer came across an early news clipping about this issue, which will probably be included in a future edition of the Judd book.

The dies by Longacre are deserving of some description, possibly of interest to specialists (see below). For everyone, specialist or dilettante, the opportunity to acquire a Proof gold pattern *struck in gold* is indeed remarkable. We expect that this will land in the cabinet of a specialist, but as a trophy coin it also has appeal. Quality, rarity, and historical significance all come together in this coin.

NGC Census: 5; 1 finer (Proof-67).

Both dies are incompletely finished and show prominent striae. This is a real pattern, not a fantasy or numismatic delicacy, and its intent was to illustrate the large diameter as noted above. The preparation was by James B. Longacre or an assistant. On the obverse, the lettering UNITED STATES OF AMERICA was punched around the periphery with the date 1852 below, with arabesques surrounding the interior opening, dentils on the outside border. On the reverse we have the word DOLLAR in large letters punched deeply in the die, with a wreath below. Surrounding the central opening on this side are two raised ridges. This die exhibits several cracks, and we mention them here for the edification of our fine associate Saul Teichman, who keeps track of such things: Cracks are seen from the center to the rim at the right edge of the first L (DOLLAR), another through the second L and slightly left of the upright, and a third at the 5:00 position.

1875 "Sailor Head" Pattern $5
J-1439, Finest Graded



(2x photo)

1187 1875 pattern $5. "Sailor Head." J-1439, P-1582. Rarity-7-. Proof-67 RB (PCGS). Copper. Reeded edge. What a splendid coin this is! Obverse and reverse are sharply struck, beautiful, and display rich leather brown-red surfaces. It would be difficult to imagine a J-1439 of finer quality.

The obverse shows the portrait of Miss Liberty, the well-known "Sailor Head," best known for its counterpart on 20-cent pieces, but also seen on dollars and on the $5 (as here). Close inspection reveals some curiosities, often true of William Barber's work. The letters of LIBERTY in the headband are in sans serif letters, not particularly well aligned, but of a style out of keeping with the rest of the lettering on the coin, except for IN GOD WE TRUST on the reverse. Apparently this was a case of mixed but *not* matched. The coronet can be fancifully likened to a sailor cap, at least at quick glance, if one does not notice the hair protruding above. At the back of Miss Liberty's head a small pigtail is secured by two ribbons, ribbed, bringing to mind the origin of the word *ribbon,* which in Old English was *ribbed band,* or *ribband.* The date 1875, in a straight line, seems to be from a four-digit logotype punch, probably the same as could be located elsewhere on a regular issue coin, though we haven't checked.

The eagle on the reverse is borrowed from that on the contemporary 20-cent piece, in turn adapted from the trade dollar of 1873. Above is the inscription UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, then in the field the letters E PLURIBUS UNUM, poorly spaced (the E is distant), and no doubt deserving a ribbon or background to accent them, but not provided by Barber. Below is the aforementioned motto IN GOD WE TRUST in sans serif letters, appearing a bit ungainly under magnification, with the G being distorted (check it out under magnification). Below is FIVE DOLLARS.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer.

Rare 1878 Copper Pattern Half Eagle
J-1568A, Low Rarity-7
Sole J-1568A Certified by PCGS



(2x photo)

1188 1878 pattern $5. J-1568A, P-1759. Rarity-7-. Proof-66 RB (PCGS). Copper. Reeded edge. George T. Morgan's large and somewhat stocky head of Liberty to left, two hair ribbons, LIBERTY upon one, a trace pattern of tiny leaves and berries upon the other, E PLURIBUS UNUM and date crowded toward the rim owing to the robust nature of Liberty's portrait. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and FIVE DOLLARS around a standing eagle on the reverse, its wings "drooping," arrows and olive branch in claws—this eagle evidently metamorphed into the eagle on the reverse of the regular-issue Morgan dollars of the date and era. Fiery copper surfaces blaze with orange and crimson, with a touch of pale violet on the high points. The fields are chiefly reflective and the devices frosty, the end result a muted yet enchanting cameo contrast. A diligent search under magnification will reveal some faint flecks, but the unaided eye is oblivious to them. The present beauty is the only example of J-1568A certified by PCGS in *any* grade or color designation, and is worthy of special note as such.

PCGS Population: 1; none finer within any designation.

Incredible Gilt 1859 Pattern $20
Paquet Reverse



(2x photo)

1189 1859 pattern $20. Paquet Reverse. J-260, P-311. Rarity-8. Proof-61 (NGC). Gilt-copper. Reeded edge. This lovely and important piece is from the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, catalogued by the present writer (QDB), there described in part as:

Very sharply struck with heavy striae. Medium yellow with light hairlines.

This is the famous Paquet reverse with tall, slender letters in the legend and denomination. The 1861-dated version with this reverse, although from a different hub, struck in gold, is a classic United States numismatic rarity, with just three examples known.

The present coin is of extreme historical significance, representing as it does the earliest appearance of Paquet's distinctive style. Moreover, as this or any other Philadelphia Paquet reverse is for all practical purposes unobtainable in gold, the present coin offers an exceedingly important opportunity. We expect a great deal of attention to be centered upon it as it crosses the auction block. The number of specimens is not known, but Andrew Pollock *traces just two appearances.*

Saul Teichman notes on uspatterns.com, "I know of only one example," i.e. the presently offered coin!

From New York Coin & Stamp Co.'s sale of the George P. Woodside Collection, April 1892; William Woodin to King Farouk; J. Hewitt Judd Collection. Plated in the 1914 ANS Exhibition; Bowers and Merena's sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection, May 1999, Lot 1403.

Paquet's Pattern $20 of 1859
Unusually Nice Preservation



(2x photo)

1190 1859 pattern $20. Paquet's Liberty Seated. J-262, P-307. Rarity-7-. Proof-64 BN (PCGS). A splendid specimen, much nicer than usually seen of Anthony Paquet's Liberty Seated design. This general motif, somewhat similar in concept to that used on certain 1859 half dollars, shows Miss Liberty somewhat stocky, not at all competitive with the Gobrecht seated Liberty then in use. However, the national bird, at lower right, is very nicely delineated, the shield is bold, and most other features are well done. A podiatrist would find Liberty's toes to be unusual, all five of them being shown, but arranged more or less in descending sizes, not with a "big toe" predominating. On the ground below the shield is seen an olive branch overlaying some arrows, perhaps suggesting that these motifs had been discarded, or perhaps the eagle plans to pick them up later.

The reverse is of the standard type used on double eagles of this size, by Longacre (not Paquet's own tall letters).

PCGS Population: 1; 1 finer (Proof-65).

Interesting Pattern Trio



1191 Trio of pattern coins certified by ANACS. Closely related to patterns, but struck outside of the Mint, these three varieties were made by the International Nickel Company in 1964, as part of experiments to replace the silver coinage. These are classified as Pollock 5335, 5340, and 5375 respectively. The obverse of each depicts a male portrait in high relief, with the inscription PAUL D. MERICA/LABORATORY surrounding. The fields are somewhat irregular, more like a medal or, for that matter, the background of a Buffalo nickel, not mirrorlike. On the reverse is seen a sprawling factory complex, the inscription UNITED NICKEL COMPANY INC. and, within, DEDICATED/1964. No doubt these pieces served as souvenirs and also of evidence of what nickel coins might look like if made in the size of dime, quarter, and half dollar. Assigned grades are MS-64, MS-63, and MS-65. (Total: 3 pieces)

PROOF SETS

1192 Selection of five-piece Proof sets, 1940 through 1964, including the following: ☆ 1940 ☆ 1941 ☆ 1950 ☆1951 ☆ 1952 ☆ 1953 ☆ 1954 ☆ 1955 ☆ 1956 ☆ 1957 ☆ 1958 ☆ 1959 ☆ 1960 ☆ 1961 ☆ 1962 (2) ☆ 1963 ☆ 1964. All are housed in old-style "Seitz" coin cases that house three complete sets each. Average grades perhaps Proof-64 and finer, with many gorgeous coins included, many of which display varying degrees of toning. Few spots are noted and the overall quality is well above average. Worthy of in-person examination, and worthy of strong bidding support as well. (Total: 18 sets; 90 pieces)

Splendid 1942 Proof Set

1193 1942 Proof set graded by NGC: ☆ Cent. Proof-65 RD ☆ Nickel. Silver. Proof-66 ☆ Nickel. Proof-65 ☆ Dime. Proof-66 ☆ Quarter. Proof-66 ☆ Half dollar. Proof-66. A splendid set with both types of Jefferson nickels made this year. Each coin is absolutely gorgeous to behold, ranging from brilliant to iridescently toned. One of the nicest we have ever seen! (Total: 6 pieces)

1194 Sextette of Proof sets, 1950 through 1955, each in box of issue. The grades are easily Proof-65 or finer on average: ☆ 1950. All are lovely with a hint of faint toning on the silver pieces, the quarter is somewhat cameo-like in appearance ☆ 1951. Five lustrous coins, each with a nuance of faint toning ☆ 1952. Five great Proofs, each with a hint of attractive toning ☆ 1953. Cent with some tiny flecks on the reverse, others all bright with a touch of toning ☆ 1954. A great group, all with a hint of toning ☆ 1955. A largely brilliant set with a touch of toning on the half dollar, in a box, not a flat-pack. A super group in all respects. (Total: 6 sets, 30 coins)

1195 Quintette of Proof sets, 1951 through 1955. Gem quality across the board! Some pieces show toning highlights. This neat group should be seen to get a feeling for the overall quality; you'll be glad you took the time to look! Housed in original boxes and packaging. (Total: 5 sets, 25 pieces)

1196 Quintette of Proof sets, 1951 through 1955. All are in the box of issue, and all are essentially of gem quality. Some display light, varied toning. A "must-see" group for collectors and specialists alike. Don't miss out on these! (Total: 5 sets, 25 coins)

1197 Quartette of Proof sets, 1952 through 1954. Includes: ☆ 1952 ☆ 1953 (2) ☆ 1954. Each set housed in unopened boxes of issue, which precludes our examination. Our guess? Probably as nice as the sets in the preceding lots, as they come to us from the same consignor. (Total: 4 sets; 20 pieces)

HAWAIIAN COINS

High Quality 1847 Hawaiian Cent
Choice Mint State



1198 1847 Hawaiian cent. MS-64 BN (PCGS). A high quality example of the Hawaiian copper cent of 1847, minted in Massachusetts, and shipped to what were then known as the Sandwich Islands. Depicted is King Kamehameha III in a military jacket with epaulets and decorations. The present example is extremely well struck and is of a rich brown color.

Legend has it that natives of the islands rejected these pieces and threw them in the sea—an unlikely scenario, it would seem. However, examples are fairly scarce today, particularly in Mint State.



1199 1883 Hawaiian half dollar. MS-62 (PCGS). Brilliant and somewhat prooflike. Sharply struck. A pleasing example of this half dollar, part of the 1883 silver coinage struck at the San Francisco Mint (but with no mintmark present) for circulation in Hawaii, a project sponsored by sugar king Claus Spreckels.

Such coins enjoyed acceptance in circulation for many years, but after 1898 most were called in and melted.

MISCELLANEOUS U.S. COINS

1200 **Trio of coins:** ☆ 1873 cent. Doubled Die Obverse. FS-009.1, S-2. Net EF-40 (ANACS); AU details, scratched ☆ 1921 dime. Net VF-30 (ANACS); EF details, scratched ☆ 1854 quarter. Net EF-45 (ANACS); AU details, scratched. (Total: 3 pieces)

1201 **Quintette of coins:** ☆ 1909-S V.D.B. Lincoln cent. Net VF-25; sharpness of EF-40, reverse scratches ☆ 1864 two cents. Small Motto. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned ☆ 1918-D nickel. VF-25. Silver gray surfaces ☆ 1926-S nickel. F-15. Rich silver gray ☆ 1937-D nickel. 3-Legged. Net F-12; sharpness of F-15, rim nicks. (Total: 5 pieces)

1202 **Quartette of 19th-century coins:** ☆ 1864 two cents. MS-63 RB. Splashes of original mint lustre at the devices ☆ 1866 nickel. Rays. MS-63. Lustrous rose-gray with light planchet roughness as made. ☆ 1875 twenty cents. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned ☆ 1875-S twenty cents. AU-55. Lightly cleaned at one time. (Total: 4 pieces)

1203 **Sextette of Proof coins:** ☆ 1904 nickel. Proof-62. Reflective with speckled gray and gold ☆ 1940 nickel. Proof-64 (2). Both are reflective with iridescent rose and sky blue highlights ☆ 1942-P nickel. Proof-65. Splashes of pale yellow gold and magenta mainly on the obverse ☆ 1904 dime. Proof-62. Brilliant obverse central device with iridescent gunmetal-blue field, the reverse with rich magenta and gunmetal-blue at the periphery ☆ 1866 quarter. Motto. Proof-62. Reflective with rose and sea green at the peripheries. (Total: 6 pieces)

1204 **Quartette of silver and gold coins:** ☆ 1928-D quarter. MS-64. Satiny lustre with hints of gold ☆ 1896-O Morgan dollar. AU-58. Lustrous with delicate champagne over both surfaces ☆ 1928 Peace dollar. AU-50, lightly cleaned at one time ☆ 1854 gold dollar. Type II. EF-45. Yellow gold with traces of rose at the devices. Rim nicks. (Total: 4 pieces)

1205 **Trio of silver dollar types:** ☆ 1841 Liberty Seated. AU-55 PL. Mixture of golden and blue toning at the peripheries ☆ 1843 Liberty Seated. F-12. Rich lavender-gray with iridescent gold, blue, and sea green highlights on both surfaces ☆ 1877-S trade. AU-58. Reflective surfaces. A crescent of rose, magenta, blue and sea green toning on the obverse, with just a whisper of magenta and sea green on the reverse. (Total: 3 pieces)

1206 **Selection of gold coins:** ☆ 1853 gold dollar. AU-55 ☆ 1926 quarter eagle. AU-50 ☆ 1929 quarter eagle. AU-50 ☆ 1834 half eagle. Classic Head, Plain 4. VF-25 ☆ 1900 half eagle. MS-63 ☆ 1912 half eagle EF-40 ☆ 1913 eagle. AU-55 ☆ 1904 double eagle. AU-58 ☆ 1928 double eagle. MS-63. All are attractive and lustrous. (Total: 9 pieces)

1207 **Quintette of gold coins:** ☆ 1856 gold dollar. Slant 5. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-50, rim nick ☆ 1843-O quarter eagle. Small Date. Net VF-35; sharpness of EF-45, seawater ☆ 1893-S half eagle. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-55, cleaned ☆ 1901 half eagle. Net AU-50; sharpness of AU-58, lightly cleaned ☆ 1907 Liberty eagle. Net EF-45; sharpness of AU-50, cleaned. (Total: 5 pieces)

1208 Pair of silver coins: 1853 half dime. No Arrows. MS-60, lightly polished. Bluish gray with splashes of iridescent gunmetal-blue ☆ 1840 dime. MS-60. Cleaned and artificially toned. (Total: 2 pieces)

END OF SALE

Trusted Names, Familiar Faces Dynamic Results!

American Numismatic Rarities is a team of professionals who have over 250 years of combined experience in building meaningful collections and presenting numismatic auctions.

Consider ANR if you have duplicates or a specialized collection that you wish to part with on the most favorable terms. Do you have high-grade U.S. type coins, patterns, Proof type, colonials, territorial gold, or superb date or variety runs of any American series? Our numismatic staff has unparalleled experience in these areas and others, and their expertise and friendly service will pay dividends to you and your family when the time comes to sell.

If you are considering selling your coins, call Rick Bagg or John Pack today for more information. We believe you'll be pleased with the excellent results and the superb personal service received from our expert staff. Our widely attended sales are held in major metropolitan areas and at important numismatic conventions throughout the year. One of our auctions is certain to be just right for showcasing your collection.

Call Toll Free — 866-811-1804



Q. David Bowers, Numismatic Director · Christine Karstedt, President · Dr. Rick Bagg, Consignments · John Pack, Consignments · Frank Van Valen, Senior Numismatist · John Kraljevich, Research

ANA Life Members
Dr. Rick Bagg
Andrew Bowers
Q. David Bowers
Christine Karstedt
Melissa Karstedt
John Kraljevich, Jr.
John M. Pack
Frank Van Valen

American Numismatic Rarities, LLC

P.O. Box 1804 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894 • Toll-free: 866-811-1804 • 603-569-0823
Fax: 603-569-3875 • www.anrcoins.com • auction@anrcoins.com

Members:
Dr. Rick Bagg
Q. David Bowers
Christine Karstedt

INDEX

Colonial and Early American Coins 1-33
Half Cents 34-67
Large Cents 68-93
Small Cents 94-175
Two-Cent Pieces 176-188
Nickel Three-Cent Pieces 189-198
Silver Three-Cent Pieces 199-220
Nickel Five-Cent Pieces 221-319
Half Dimes 320-336
Dimes 337-413
Twenty-Cent Pieces 414-417
Quarter Dollars 418-495
Half Dollars 496-655
Silver Dollars 656-799
Trade Dollars 800-814
Gold Dollars 815-846
Quarter Eagles 847-884
Three-Dollar Gold Coins 885-898
Half Eagles 899-981
Eagles 982-1012
Double Eagles 1013-1096
Commemorative Silver Coins 1097-1131
Commemorative Gold Coins 1132-1136
Private and Territorial Gold Coins and Related Items 1137-1151
California Small Denomination Gold 1152-1160
Pattern Coins 1161-1191
Proof Sets 1192-1197
Hawaiian Coins 1198-1199
Miscellaneous U.S. Coins 1200-1208



ANR

American Numismatic Rarities, LLC

PO Box 1804 • Wolfeboro, NH 03894

Toll-free: 866-811-1804 • 603-569-0823

Fax: 603-569-3875 • www.anrcoins.com

email: auctions@anrcoins.com